FRIDAY
October 17, 2025

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CENTRE TELLS SC

Execution of Kerala nurse in Yemen stalled

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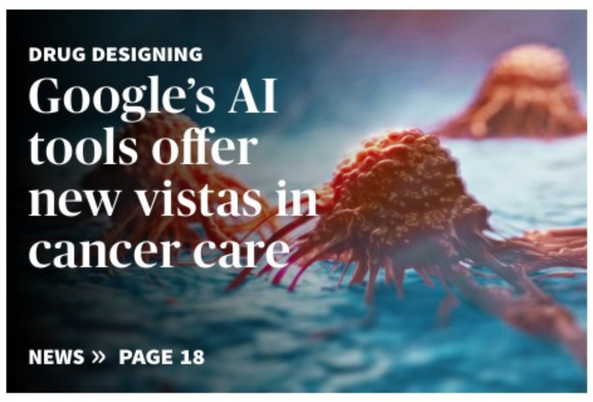

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Is Bihar lagging in growth because it is landlocked?

Experts discuss what is keeping the State behind

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ON A ROLL

Australia marches into the semifinals

SPORT » PAGE 19

Russia backs AMCA, offers to make Su-57 jets in India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Russia reaffirmed its commitment to deepen defence cooperation with India with its Ambassador Denis Alipov expressing his country's readiness to support India's Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme through "local production" of the Su-57 fifth-generation fighter jet.

Speaking at an event on Thursday, Mr. Alipov said the move underscores the long-standing strategic partnership between the two nations, which has evolved far beyond a traditional buyer-seller relationship into one of joint development, co-production, and full technology sharing. He also said that both sides are exploring collaborations in next-generation technologies.

The announcement comes amid growing speculation about the future of the India-Russia oil trade, following U.S. President Donald Trump's claim that India would soon halt such purchases.

However, the Ambassador said that "Russian energy remains the most cost-effective option on the global market".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 16

Trump and MEA at odds over Russian oil imports

Trump claims Modi gave commitment to stop buying oil from Russia 'soon'; Ministry denies the leaders discussed the issue, but says govt. is 'broad-basing' and 'diversifying' its energy sources

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India and the United States continued to differ publicly over Russian oil as U.S. President Donald Trump said he had been assured by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that India will stop buying oil from Russia, while the Ministry of External Affairs maintained the two leaders had not spoken about the issue.

However, the MEA said that India was "broad-basing" and "diversifying" its sources of energy according to market needs, and did not specifically deny the claim that it was reducing its intake.

Bone of contention

The subject of Russian oil, which has led to the U.S. imposing penalty tariffs on India, is also believed to be holding up trade talks between the two countries. While the government has consistently denied it would bow to pressure, data analysed by *The Hindu* showed that oil public sector undertakings have dropped their Russian imports by as much as 45% between June and September this year, even though Russia remains India's biggest supplier overall.

"I am not aware of any conversation yesterday between the two leaders," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told reporters here on Thursday, also clarifying that a call between Mr. Modi and Mr. Trump last Thursday had only dealt with the Gaza peace plan and India-U.S. trade issues.

On Wednesday, Mr. Trump had said he was confident that India would end its oil imports "soon" but not "immediately".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 16

Trump vs MEA
India and the U.S. have been at loggerheads over the former's purchase of Russian oil, and New Delhi has consistently denied it will bow to pressure
Trump says Modi committed on Oct. 15 to ending Russian oil imports soon
MEA says there was no conversation between leaders that day, no reference to Russian oil in Oct. 9 call too
U.S. Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor met Modi on Oct. 11 and later Trump on Oct. 15; However, it is unclear if he conveyed India's message
MEA on Oct. 16 says priority is to protect interests of Indians, broad-basing energy sources
I was not happy that India was buying oil, and [PM Modi] assured me today that they will not be buying oil from Russia. That's a big step. Now we're going to get China to do the same thing... He [Mr. Modi] loves Trump... I don't want to destroy his political career
DONALD TRUMP, U.S. President

Modi outsourced key decisions to the U.S.: Congress

NEW DELHI
Amid the India-U.S. exchange over Russian oil, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said Prime Minister Modi is "frightened" of U.S. President Donald Trump. In a post on X, he also said, "[Modi] allows Trump to decide and announce that India will not buy Russian oil. Keeps sending congratulatory messages despite repeated snubs... Skipped Sharm el-Sheikh. Doesn't contradict him on Operation Sindoor." » PAGE 16

China defends oil purchase, slams U.S. for 'bullying'

BEIJING
China on Thursday said that its purchases of Russian oil were "legitimate" and decried recent "unilateral bullying" measures by the U.S. as the trade row between the two countries continues to intensify. The reaction follows U.S. President Donald Trump's remarks that India promised to stop buying Russian oil, and he would get China to follow suit. » PAGE 24

State to regulate activities of private entities, such as RSS, in public spaces

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday decided to issue an order for regulating activities of private and non-government organisations, such as the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), on public properties, including government and government-aided schools and colleges, public grounds, government-regulated temples, sites under the Archaeology Department, parks and any other government sites.

This decision comes days after Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge wrote to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking a ban on RSS activities in public places, including school premises, parks, and playgrounds.

The BJP lashed out at the decision, calling it part of a sustained, long-term campaign against the RSS. Party State president B.Y. Vijayendra called the decision an effort by the Congress government to obfuscate its own failures.

No tresspassing

Briefing reporters about Cabinet decisions on Thursday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H. K. Patil said, "Public properties should not be trespassed. There are some laws in the State passed to protect public properties, but they are inadequate. The Government Order will give clarity on how the authorities should move and how they should go about granting permission. The order will be issued shortly."

Mr. Patil said the GO would elaborate on the mode for granting permission to private organisations to conduct activities as per the law. The Home Department would issue the order soon.

Asked whether the government was particularly targeting the RSS, Mr Patil said, "In view of the present situation, we have taken a decision. The government's intention is proper management and regulation of public properties."

The government decision comes a few days after RSS celebrated its centenary across the country, including events and 100 route marches in Bengaluru.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

NEARBY

Solapur man held for threat call to Priyank Kharge

BENGALURU
The Sadashiva Nagar police in Bengaluru have tracked down Dhanappa Narone, 40, from Solapur, for allegedly making threats and abusive calls to IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge for demanding a ban on activities of RSS. » PAGE 12

Survey deadline may be extended in GBA limits

BENGALURU
With only 35% of households covered so far, The Social and Educational Survey within GBA limits is likely to be extended again. » PAGE 2

Cabinet approves 117-km business corridor

BENGALURU
The Cabinet has approved the 117-km Bengaluru Business Corridor (BBC), formerly known as the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR), to connect Electronics City with Tumakuru Road and Mysuru Road. » PAGE 8

METROPLUS » PAGE 26

Off the cuff

Campus life: Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya, who is on a 3-day visit, with students of Hindu College, her alma mater, in New Delhi on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA (REPORT: PAGE 16)

SC won't lift HC stay on 42% OBC quota in Telangana civic polls

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to interfere with a Telangana High Court order that had stayed two Government Orders enhancing the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in municipalities and panchayats to 42%.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta declined to stay the High Court's interim order, observing that it could not take a view inconsistent with Constitution Bench rulings that have fixed a 50% ceiling on total reservations in local body elections. However, it said that local body elections could proceed without the proposed hike in OBC quotas.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 16

SC confident EC will reveal Bihar voter data, refuses order

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to issue a specific direction to the Election Commission to publish the individual details of voters added or deleted from the final electoral roll in Bihar after the special intensive revision. It had "no doubt" that the poll body would ultimately discharge its responsibilities, the court said.

The EC declared that it would publish everything only after the deadline for nominations ends on October 20, and also objected to having this assurance recorded in an order.

"We have no doubt that they know their responsibility. After doing the deletions and additions, which are bound to be there, they are bound to publish it... It is an ongoing exercise which is yet to finally culminate into a final list," Justice Surya Kant, heading the Bench with Justice Joymalya Bagchi, observed.

Over 21.5 lakh voters were added in the final roll, while 3.66 lakh names were deleted, in addition to the 65 lakh removed in the draft list.

Appearing for the petitioners, advocate Prashant Bhushan questioned why the revision process had such a "minimal level of transparency". He told the Bench that the lakhs of voters had neither been given notice nor informed of the reasons for their removal. "The ECI is saying that they have informed them. How can these claims be verified? The only way to do this is to put all the lists of additions and deletions on the website so that people can check," Mr. Bhushan submitted.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 16

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The more cricket we get to play, the better we will get

The White Ferns' all-rounder feels the competitions around the world have improved the quality of the game; says she has also learnt how not to ride the highs and lows because it can be tough at times; terms the triumph in the T20 World Cup in 2024 a great achievement for the team

GETTY IMAGES

INTERVIEW

BROOKE HALLIDAY

Kavita Menon
COLOMBO

There's an easygoing warmth to Brooke Halliday – jovial, soft-spoken, and modest about her achievements – guided by her belief in "staying true to herself" no matter the circumstance.

From weekend cricket at the Manukau City Cricket Club in Auckland to representing New Zealand on the world stage, the 29-year-old has become a steady hand in a team navigating transition.

Over four years since making her international debut, the all-rounder has quietly evolved into one of the White Ferns' dependable middle-order batters, a handy wicket-taker and an emerging leader. In an interaction with *The Hindu*, she opens up about her cricketing roots, lessons learned from stalwarts, how she balances her role and her perspective and more. *Excerpts:*

Your introduction to the sport has an interesting familial history. Could you elaborate on that?

A little bit of family history is there. So, my dad and my uncles played cricket every Saturday down at a ground in Auckland, the Manukau City Cricket Club. My grandfather and my great-uncle also played for the club.

From there, my brother and I ended up playing junior cricket, with our father coaching us. I have a few other brothers who also play. But that is where it all started. When you see your dad, uncle, and brother all doing something, you naturally end up doing the same thing.

Cricket surely has its moments. But otherwise, I have enjoyed it right from the start.

It's been over four years since you made your international debut. You've seen a few stars exit, on the cusp of retirement and new entrants find their footing. How has the transition process been for the team and for yourself?

Over the last 12-18 months, my role has changed in the sense that I am probably looked at as more of a leader in the group, which at times doesn't come too naturally to me. I'm not the most outspoken person. I probably lead others not through words, but more through actions.

One thing that I have been able to do recently, from a batting point of view, is support the young ones coming through, like Izzy Gaze, Georgia Plimmer, and a couple of players whom I have been able to spend a little time with batting out in the middle, but also off the field. Just communicating with them on how I do things, and maybe they might be able to implement something into their own game.

A few days ago, Georgia and I were talking about how I played in the game against Bangladesh. She was asking questions about how she might be able to take in something and learn from it.

With the likes of Sophie (Devine) departing shortly, my role will change. We will be losing a lot of experience. Then it will become a "How can I still be me but also help lead others in the team?" It will just be being true to myself, while keeping in mind what others need.

You have shared the dressing room with some of the greatest players the women's game has seen – Sophie Devine and Suzie Bates. What are some of the things you have learnt from them and would like to inculcate?

The biggest thing I have learnt from Suzie and Sophie is the way they trust their abilities. Just a prime example, but not the nicest one: Suzie started this tournament with two ducks, and a lot of people would maybe cave. But Suzie is being Suzie and staying true to herself.

Being able to see someone of that calibre take the criticism on board and be in a sticky situation, but go out there with a smile on their face is great. But she is still contributing to the team in other ways. What has also been the coolest thing is seeing how they prepare, and that hasn't changed for Suzie at all despite the runs.

Something that I have also learnt is how not to ride the highs and lows of cricket because it can be tough at times. Suzie, Sophie and even Lea (Tahuhu) have all shown us, the younger ones coming through the international stage, how to stay true and trust your abilities, reminding us that we are here for a reason, backing yourself and enjoying the game.

Coming to the T20 World Cup triumph in 2024, you made significant contributions – a crucial partnership with Amelia Kerr, taking the big wicket of South Africa's Sune Luus. What were the emotions and thoughts on that day?

I actually didn't realise I had bowled in the game until I heard a couple of the coaches and players. We even asked ChatGPT, "How did the White Ferns win the T20 World Cup final?" And that mentioned me bowling. But I have no recollection of my bowling.

From an emotional point of view, it's actually all a blur. I was just fortunate that day that the shots that I played, whether it's the reverse or going deep in my crease and sweeping it, all paid off. I was able to change that momentum and also put us in a position to have a competitive total. It was a big win and a great achievement for us in the end.

GETTY IMAGES

Pitching in with timely knocks has become a norm for you of late, be it the 69 against Bangladesh recently, the 86 – your highest ODI score so far – against India in the 2024 series decider. How do you prepare yourself for that?

The biggest part of batting at No. 5 is that you never really know what position you are going at. At times, it could be to continue the momentum that the top-order has built or change it in a way that puts us in favour. I have to go in with quite an open mind. And what I keep true to myself is keeping things simple.

The day, last year in India, when I got that 80-odd runs [86], was exactly that. We were in a tough position. I just tried to simplify it as best as possible, watch the ball and get myself into a position where I can get our team a winning chance.

Similarly, a couple of days ago, in that situation (against Bangladesh), I just needed to play a very boring brand of cricket. I had to get the ones and the dots, and build that partnership with Sophie (Devine). I just go out there and focus on watching the ball, and back my strengths.

The women's game has seen a change in tides, with high-scoring matches being a lot more common and the competitiveness in general. What's your take on this?

The women's game, in particular, has grown so much – the professionalism, a lot more players who are now full-time cricketers. The competitions around the world, like the Women's Premier League, the Women's Big Bash League and the Hundred, are making the quality of cricket a lot better. And that means the international game is also growing.

Just a few days ago, we saw Australia chase down 330, which was absolutely crazy. It just shows that it doesn't really matter what the score put out there is; every team is capable of chasing it down.

New Zealand was one of the first cricket boards to introduce equal pay for the men's and women's teams. How has the impacted the cricket ecosystem with respect to development, talent identification and competition level?

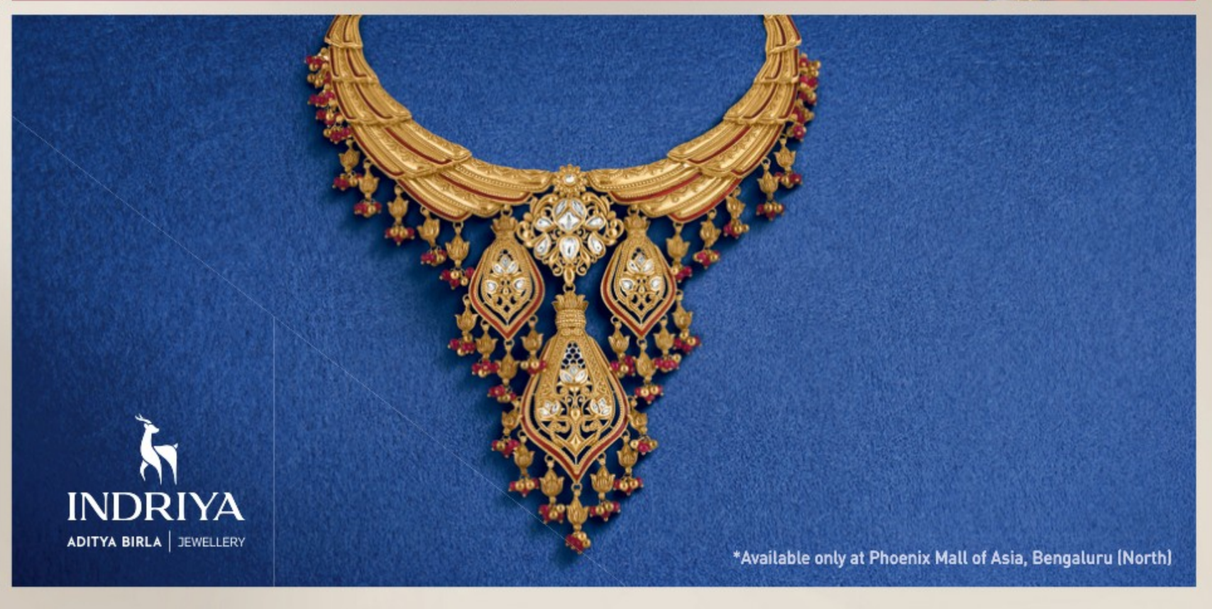
Having equal match payments as the men have allowed players the freedom to focus full-time on cricket which, in turn, has helped develop our game.

The cool thing about the 'White Ferns 17 contract' is that, say, five players here can go back and show the ones that are part-time how to train purposefully and in a way that will help them to be better cricketers. From there, the flow and effect again is that the quality of games is going to get better.

In the last couple of years, we've had the NZ-A programme reintroduced to the women's pathway, which is another opportunity for a wider scope of players to develop their game at the next level and push for spots at the international level.

The amount of cricket we play in New Zealand has also increased – we have squad games, North vs South.

The more cricket that we get to play, the better cricket we'll play, which will help improve the quality of players that come through our system. It's a stepping stone in the right direction.



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Survey deadline likely to be extended

The ongoing exercise was scheduled to be completed by October 24 in Greater Bengaluru Authority limits

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Social and Educational Survey within the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) limits was scheduled to be completed by October 24. However, with only 35% of households covered so far, compared to the Statewide average of around 90%, officials now expect the deadline to be extended again.

On Thursday, residents of several wards in Pulakeshinagar, especially in low-income neighbourhoods where the survey was still incomplete, queued up with Aadhaar cards and household details. Many feared that the upcoming festival holidays might delay their inclusion or leave them out altogether.

Adding to the challenge, teachers, who form the majority of enumerators, are set to return to schools from October 18. With the survey behind schedule, officials told *The Hindu* that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has been closely monitoring progress and questioning the delay.

To make up for lost time, enumerators have been directed to visit houses during early morning and evening hours, with women enumerators covering 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and men between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. The decision followed complaints from residents that surveyors were not visiting at convenient times.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during the Social and Educational Survey at his residence 'Cauvery' in Bengaluru on Thursday.

SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SURVEY

Several corporation commissioners visited the field on Thursday to verify enumerators' claims that residents were uncooperative. Enumerators, who have faced repeated verbal abuse, said the willingness to participate was mainly visible in lower-income and underprivileged areas.

"In most places, we are still being questioned or shouted at," one enumerator said, adding that repeated visits are seen as disturbance.

On the other hand, residents feared exclusion. "We are worried that if the enumerators miss a visit when we are not available, our families may not be counted. We feel it is important to participate in government initiatives as these can help the government understand our situation," Meena Kumari, a resident of J.C. Nagar said.

Officials said one of the major obstacles to faster completion in Bengaluru has been resistance from Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) in apartment complexes. "We had already met with RWA presidents to explain the purpose of the survey, but had to call another meeting to understand the continued hesitation," a corporation commissioner told *The Hindu*. "Half the RWA presidents said enumerators were coming when people were not at home, so we directed teams to work early and till 9 p.m. Still, even after two rounds of meetings and assurance, many RWAs remain unconvinced about the survey's purpose".

Some teachers have not allegedly been completing duties properly, assuming that with only two days left before schools reopen, their pending work will be overlooked. "We are closely monitoring this. The reopening of schools will not be an excuse. Even if they are on duty, they will not be paid if work is not done properly," said an official.

Officials also expressed concern over the lack of support from local elected representatives.

"If MLAs and councillors appeal directly, there is usually higher turnout. We have repeatedly urged them to encourage residents to cooperate, but support has been limited," one official said. Some residents, they added, believe that the survey favours certain communities, but we have clarified that individuals can skip any questions they are uncomfortable with while still giving data.

RWAs' reluctance to cooperate to be looked into

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

GBA Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao said that the revised work schedule, where male enumerators work till 9 p.m., would continue only for another day or two. He acknowledged that RWAs have been reluctant to cooperate and said he, along with corporation commissioners, would review the situation and find possible solutions. Responding to the Women's Commission's request to declare a Deepavali holiday, Mr. Rao said a decision would be taken after discussions.

NRN, wife declining to take part in exercise gets social media traction

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While several social media posts shared what was purportedly a self-declaration letter by Infosys founder Narayana Murthy and his wife Sudha Murty, declining to take part in the ongoing Social and Educational Survey, the GBA authorities refused to comment, citing privacy issues.

GBA Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao said he could not disclose the reasons mentioned by the couple.

Questions on privacy

BJP leader S. Suresh Kumar, in a social media post, demanded to know how the document leaked, when the government had promised that data collected would be secure.

Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy and Sudha Murty.

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Dopamine overdose: how modern lifestyles are rewiring our brains

Contemporary life has made dopamine a double-edged sword that both stimulates productivity and feeds addiction; bringing back balance is key: breaks from devices, regular movement and meaningful social connections can all help stabilise dopamine levels and enhance mental well-being

Pretty Duggar Gupta

If there were a chemical formula for happiness, dopamine would be at its core. Often called the "feel-good" neurotransmitter, dopamine drives motivation, reward, and pleasure, whether from a good meal, an achievement, or a meaningful relationship. From drug addictions to social media marathons, contemporary life has made dopamine a double-edged sword that both stimulates productivity and feeds addiction.

Dopamine is a chemical signal that conveys pleasure and thus a sense of reward. Each time something happens that makes us happy,such as eating chocolate or receiving a compliment, our brain releases dopamine, prompting us to act in the same manner again. On a neurobiological level, this is largely contingent on the mesolimbic pathway from the ventral tegmental area (VTA) to the nucleus accumbens, a central part of the brain's reward pathways. The mesolimbic pathway reinforces behaviours we perceive as constructive or pleasurable, along with reward prediction and a motivation to learn.

Certain times, these processes are commandeered by addictive drugs, including cocaine, nicotine, or alcohol. Such drugs induce massive dopamine surges, overwhelming the reward centre of the brain. Over time however, the brain gets desensitised, requiring more doses of the addictive substance in order to feel normal. This is where addiction begins – not from pleasure itself, but from the brain trying to bring balance back.

Worrying trend: Although scrolling on Instagram or watching endless short videos may feel harmless, neuroscientists have shown that the brain processes the kind of stimulation presented by technology similarly to actual drug use. K.R. DEEPAK

From substances to screens

Drugs used to be the primary cause of dopamine overload, but now, technology is the new push. Every ping, like, and notification serves to deliver tiny doses of dopamine, delivered intermittently, to promote user engagement in a reward schedule that best resembles a slot machine. Social media, short videos, reels, and streaming services exploit this gap, producing dependency with their endless cycle of suspense and satisfaction.

Although scrolling on Instagram or watching endless short videos may feel harmless, neuroscientists have shown that the brain processes the kind of stimulation presented by technology similarly to actual drug use. Such use promotes compulsive checking behaviours, fractured attention, anxiety, or withdrawal when disconnected. Functional MRI studies have shown overlapping activation in the nucleus accumbens during social media engagement and substance use, supporting the idea that digital stimuli can trigger the same reward circuits that drive addiction.

What is more concerning is that dopamine-driven design is not coincidental – it is a result of behavioural engineering, in which algorithms find out what rewards you the most and serve you more of it.

Young adults and teenagers, who are still learning how to manage their emotions and impulses, are especially susceptible. Research indicates that adolescents who report spending more than three hours a day on social media report substantially higher levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms. The adolescent brain is particularly plastic in development. This means that under-stimulation from the world around them and overstimulation from technology may, quickly yet casually, shape their reward circuits – creating hyper-short attention spans and emotional instability. Excessive screen time is shown by research to change the sensitivity of dopamine receptors, making it more difficult to find pleasure in daily life. Short of that, our normal baseline happiness is decreasing, while our appetites for stimulation become stronger.

An overload of dopamine does not indicate that we are off the charts happy; it suggests that our brain's reward system may be fatigued. By constantly seeking out stimulation, we are unknowingly setting ourselves up for burnout. The implications may be slow and stealthy at first: the experience of losing motivation when performing a normal task as it feels bland compared to an immediate sense of stability experienced while waiting for digital affirmation or enjoying the pharmacologic effects of a substance. Eventually, wear and tear will dull our emotional responses to regular experiences, for instance, the ability to experience, joy, and will interrupt sleep, shorten our attention span and begin to deteriorate our mental health with anxiety, depression and poor self-esteem.

It is possible to use social media engagement to stimulate reward circuits in the brain that resemble what drives some to addiction. When the brain becomes accustomed to constant spikes of pleasure and begins screaming for more, potential manifestations include addiction, whether social media, video games, or drugs.

Reclaiming balance

The solution, of course, is not to eliminate dopamine, but rather to bring it back in balance. "Dopamine fasting" refers to taking a break from the defeating pleasure and excitement our brains tend to rely on and instead, attempting to retrain our brains to function appropriately with a more moderate and sustainable level of happiness when engaging in slower and deeper experiences. Taking time away from constant phone reminders, silencing emails, taking a break from your devices, making your devices greyscale, or simply instituting a tech break can help your mind reset its rhythm.

Regular movement and moderate engagement with mindfulness will allow you to experience dopamine naturally and at a more stable and healthy level, instead of the non-stop hyper-stimulating level we are used to in the present. Focusing on meaningful activities – deep work, learning new skills – also ushers in enjoyable experiences with slower, more lasting rewards.

The most important return to balance comes with real human connection – a good old-fashioned conversation, a laugh with a friend, or time spent with family that provides a level of happiness that no social media 'likes' can match. Ensuring good sleep, good nutrition, and emotional awareness helps stabilise dopamine levels and grounds our moods.

(Dr. Pretty Duggar Gupta is consultant psychiatrist, Aster Hospital, Bengaluru. pretty.gupta@asterhospital.in)

THE GIST

- Dopamine is a chemical signal that conveys pleasure and thus a sense of reward. Each time something happens that makes us happy, such as eating chocolate or receiving a compliment, our brain releases dopamine, prompting us to act in the same manner again
- An overload of dopamine does not indicate that we are off the charts happy; it suggests that our brain's reward system may be fatigued. By constantly seeking out stimulation, we are unknowingly setting ourselves up for burnout
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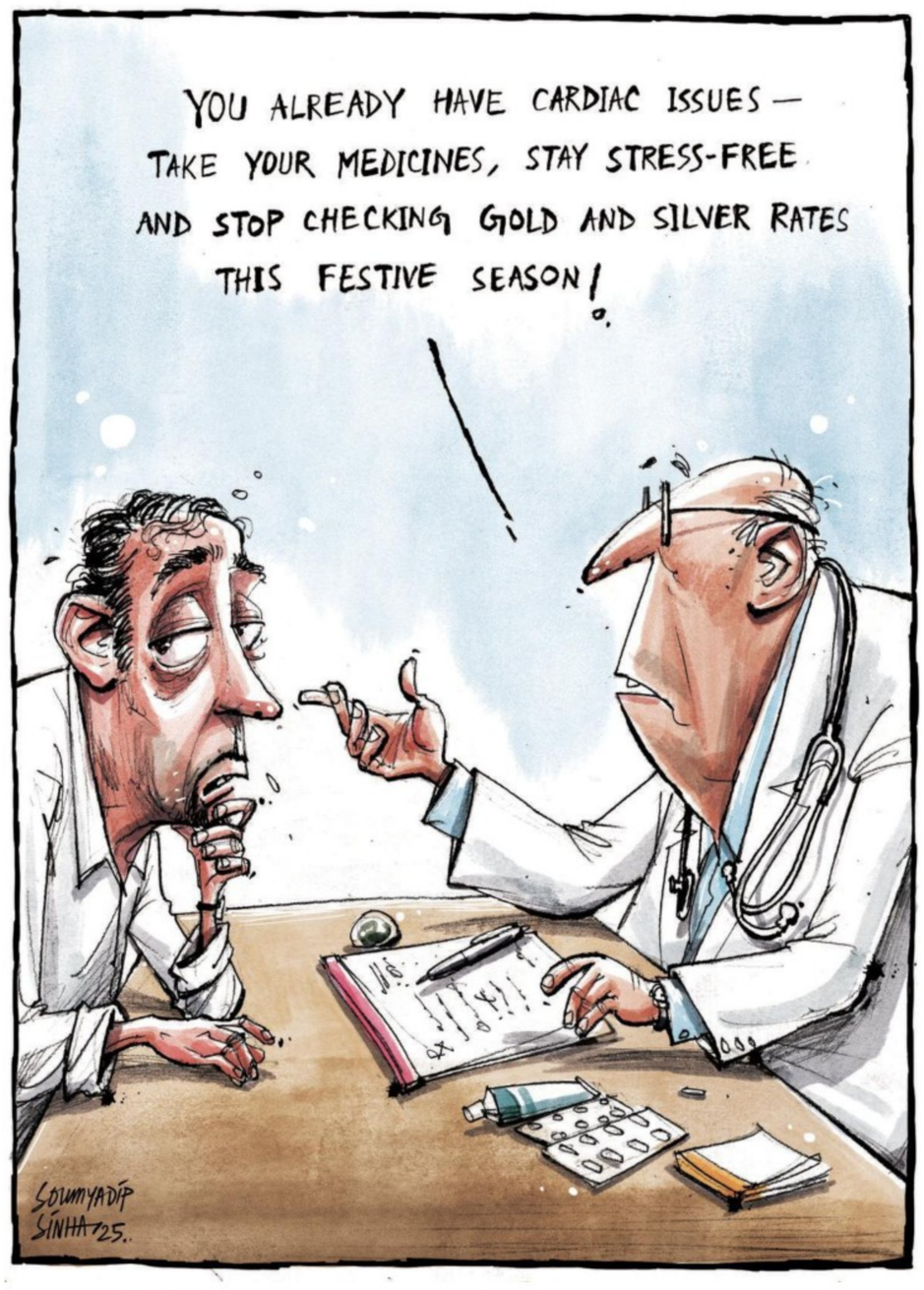
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From brisk walk to simple exercises, investing in spinal health now can pay rich dividends

WORLD SPINE DAY

Backiaraj D.

World Spine Day on October 16, has arrived with a clear, energising brief: "Invest in Your Spine." Far from a passive plea to sit up straight, the 2025 campaign is a call to motion, urging every age group to treat spinal health as an active, daily practice rather than a background setting on a digital device. With low back pain now the leading cause of global disability, the most valuable contribution we can make is to move – deliberately, repeatedly, and joyfully – because the vertebrae thrive on rhythm, load, and circulation, not on the static hunch that has become the signature posture of modern life.

Stepping up

For the average adult the equation is refreshingly simple: the more steps you bank before noon, the less pain you will tally by nightfall. A brisk 20-minute walk at sunrise wakes the deep stabilising muscles that hug the lumbar spine and drives nutrient-rich fluid through the discs, keeping them plump and shock-absorbent. From there, micro-doses of motion are the interest that compounds: set a quiet hourly chime, stand up and march in place for 60 seconds while rolling the shoulder blades together; climb one flight of stairs sideways, leading with the left leg on the way up and the right on the way down; swap the elevator queue for a two-minute calf-stretch against the wall. These snippets accumulate into the 150 minutes of moderate activity recommended by the World Health Organization, yet they feel less like exercise and more like reclaiming stolen minutes from a chair.

Movement as medicine: With low back pain now the leading cause of global disability, the most valuable contribution we can make is to move. FILE PHOTO

Pregnancy, often misinterpreted as a nine-month sentence to stillness, is in fact an invitation to curated movement. Physiotherapists now prescribe pool walking three times a week; the buoyancy unloads 70% of body weight while the gentle drag of water strengthens multifidus muscles that guard the spine. On land, a standing pelvic tilt – hands on hips, exhale and tuck, inhale, and release – can be performed at the kitchen counter for two sets of fifteen, turning meal prep into a mini-workout. A low step stool placed beneath the desk allows one foot to alternate elevation, keeping the pelvis dynamic and reducing the static sway-back that compresses lumbar discs.

After birth, front-loaded baby carriers can be replaced with ergonomic backpacks that sit above the hips, encouraging the parent to walk taller and longer, transforming stroller routes into spine-lengthening hikes.

Rewrite ageing

Ageing does not retire the spine from activity; it merely rewrites the playlist. Osteopenia vertebrae respond to axial loading with renewed mineral deposition. Doctors encourage the elderly to keep up with their daily outings including temple stairs and market walks to stay in shape, but with small updates.

A calm dawn walk around the neighbourhood temple or park gives steady, weight-bearing steps; carrying a light cloth bag with a kilogram of lentils adds a gentle load that tells bones to stay strong. At home, a firm cotton mattress on a regular wooden cot supports the back better than the old rope-strung cot, and placing a rolled towel under the knees during afternoon rest eases lower back arch. Calcium comes through food like ragi porridge sweetened with jaggery, small river fish eaten with soft bones, and a warm glass of milk at night. These habits let ageing spines stay active and upright.

The ledger is unambiguous: every minute spent in motion is interest earned against future pain, surgery days and pharmacy bills. The spine is not a fragile column to be guarded; it is a dynamic spring that wants to be compressed, released and compressed again. Invest today by moving, and the spine will pay dividends for every tomorrow you plan to stand up in.

(Dr. Backiaraj D. is a spine surgeon with the department of spine surgery and neurological sciences at Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore. backiaraj.d@naruvihospitals.com)

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THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Rise in reported POCSO cases in India from 2017 to 2022

94 in per cent. India has shown a rise in reported sexual offences against children under POCSO between 2017 and 2022, from 33,210 to 64,469 cases, but the prosecution rate remains above 90%, signalling stronger enforcement, according to Into the Light Index 2025. PTI

Penalty imposed by DoT on Airtel for norms violation

2.14 in ₹ lakh. According to the licence agreement, the company is required to ensure adequate verification of customers before enrolling them as subscribers. The Department of Telecom alleged violations of terms by Bharti Airtel with respect to verification norms. PTI

Beneficiaries selected for Maharashtra govt.'s Agri scheme

32.67 lakh. The beneficiaries selected for the Maharashtra government's Agricultural Mechanisation Scheme through the MahaDBT portal is the highest ever chosen, State Minister Dattatray Bharane said on Thursday. PTI

People apprehended under Operation Aaghat 2.0 in Delhi

500 The Delhi Police on Thursday claimed a 20% reduction in PCR calls related to street crimes over the last month in the Southeast Delhi district. According to an official, around 500 people were apprehended under Operation Aaghat 2.0. PTI

Number of persons in India affected by wildfires in 2024-2025

15 million Uttar Pradesh was also found to have experienced its most severe wildfire season on record. Regional fires contributed to severe haze episodes in New Delhi in November 2024, with PM2.5 levels reaching 13 times the standard set by the WHO. PTI

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Restoring fiscal space for the States

With rising public aspirations and widening service gaps, States' expenditure commitments are steadily increasing; GST introduction has altered the resource position of the States, in addition to centralising the authority to levy tax

ECONOMIC NOTES

K. Shanmugam

The journey of Goods and Services Tax (GST) implementation has entered a major new stage with the latest restructuring of tax slabs, a move expected to pass on over ₹2 lakh crore in tax benefits to consumers. With this, the GST compensation cess stands abolished as it merges with the regular tax, marking the end of an era of compensation under GST. The decision is likely to boost local demand, and the consequent growth in revenue may reduce the expected revenue loss. However, certain States feel that no proper estimation of this loss has been made, and that the actual loss could be much higher than projected. They are aggrieved that their demand for compensation has been ignored.

Though studies show that GST implementation has largely benefited all States through liberal compensation mechanisms, the post-compensation tax structure is expected to raise concerns in some of them. The cess and surcharge mechanism gives the Centre additional leverage over the States. With significant changes in the fiscal policy landscape in recent years, including the introduction of GST, which has effectively shifted taxation power from the States to the GST Council, there is an increasing demand to revisit the fiscal policy on tax sharing to live up to the principle of 'cooperative federalism.'

Table 1 shows how the actual devolution of Central taxes to States has fallen short

Finance Commission	Recommended share on shareable pool (in %)	Actual share on GTR (in %)
13Th FC	32	28
14th FC	42	32
15th FC up to 2023-24	41	31

Growing concerns: With the end of GST compensation, States fear a loss of fiscal autonomy. REUTERS

THE GIST

- The restructuring of GST slabs merges the GST compensation cess with regular tax, ending compensation under GST and potentially boosting local demand.
- Central transfers still account for 44% of the States' revenue receipts, with several States receiving less than the overall average, indicating heavy dependency on the Centre.
- Progressive States contributing more tax revenue can directly benefit if the personal income tax base is shared or States are empowered to top up IT, reducing fiscal dependency.

Evolving tax landscape

Fiscal policy in India, particularly on revenue sharing between the Union and State governments, is an evolving story. Article 246 of the Constitution (subject-matter of laws made by Parliament and by the legislatures of States) demarcates the areas of taxation power between the Centre and the States under the Union List and the State List, respectively, with residuary power reserved for the former. Using this residuary power, Parliament amended the Constitution in 2016 through Article 246A for the levy of Service Tax. The tax landscape changed with the introduction of the Service Tax through the 92nd Amendment, and further with the 101st Amendment, through which GST was launched in July 2017.

For the first time, GST introduced a destination-based tax instead of an origin-based one, besides allowing the Centre and the States to share a common tax base. With GST being a contributor of substantial own tax revenue to States, this new regime has led them to suffer a significant erosion in their fiscal autonomy, as the power on taxation is shifted to the GST Council, where the Centre dominates the decision-making process.

As India is a multi-tiered government, design asymmetry arises in assigning resources and responsibilities between the Centre and the States. Normally, the power to raise resources is largely centralised for efficiency and economic reasons. The expenditure responsibilities are decentralised for better accountability and efficient delivery of public services. The resulting fiscal imbalances are corrected through re-assignment and redistribution, enabling the government at each level to command resources to discharge its responsibility. Such an adjustment must remain dynamic to address changes in the fiscal landscape.

Role of Finance Commission

Articles 268 to 293 of the Constitution define the Centre-State financial relations. The Finance Commission (FC) is constituted under Article 280, which has been constitutionally assigned the task of determining transfers to all States. However, there are grievances regarding the manner in which the Central Finance Commission applies its tax-sharing criteria, which, according to some States, penalise progressive ones. There are also complaints of inconsistency among the Finance Commissions in adopting criteria and applying relative weights.

The Commission's grants are supplemented by grants under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Central Sector Schemes, and, earlier, by the Union Planning Commission (PC) grants, which ceased after the abolition of the Planning Commission in 2014. Article 282 provides for direct grants by the Union government, while Article 275 provides for statutory grants through the Finance Commissions. Some States feel that the flow of funds through these channels is neither fair nor transparent.

Falling devolution share

The earlier system of sharing individual taxes was replaced by a global sharing principle, thanks to the 80th Amendment that came into effect during the 11th Finance Commission (2000-2005). The Commission recommended 29.5% to the States out of the proceeds of shareable Central taxes, which was steadily enhanced to 30.5% by the 12th Finance Commission, 32% by the 13th Finance Commission and 42% by the 14th Finance Commission. In view of Jammu and Kashmir having ceased to be a State, the share came down to 41%. However, despite higher recommendations, the actual devolution to the States as a percentage of Gross Tax Revenue (GTR) has consistently fallen short **(Table 1).**

The shortfall is attributed to the ever-increasing cesses and surcharges, which are not part of the shareable pool of revenue. The cess and surcharge accounted for ₹3,86,440 crore as per the Revised Estimates (RE) 2024-25. It is expected to be ₹4,23,456 crore under the Budget Estimates (BE) for 2025-26, excluding the GST compensation cess. States have been constantly pressing for their merger with the shareable pool, a demand the Union government has not accepted. This resource gives additional leverage to the Centre in managing its expenses over and above its usual tax share, as the proceeds from cesses and surcharges often fund the Central share in various schemes.

Dependence on Central transfers

Central transfers still account for 44% of the States' revenue receipts. It ranges from 72% for Bihar to 20% for Haryana with nine States – Haryana (20%), Telangana (21%), Gujarat (28%), Maharashtra (28%), Karnataka (31%), Tamil Nadu (31%), Goa (33%) Kerala (34%), and Odisha (41%) – getting less than the overall average figure of 44%. This indicates heavy dependency of States on Central transfers and, to that extent, a compromise in their fiscal autonomy.

A look at the proportion of tax revenue shared between the Centre and the States during pre- and post-GST periods reveals a clear trend: the power to levy taxes is getting centralised, while the expenditure responsibilities on the States are on the rise **(Table 2)**.

Share of central Transfers in State Revenue Receipts (₹ In crore)

Year	Revenue receipt of States (RR)	Central tax devolution (CD)	% of CD to RR	Grants in aid (GA)	% of GA to RR	Total transfers (TT)	% of TT to RR
2012-13	12,52,024	2,91,530	0.23	1,88,682	0.15	4,80,212	0.38
2013-14	13,69,187	3,18,273	0.23	2,05,952	0.15	5,24,225	0.38
2014-15	15,91,583	3,37,835	0.21	3,30,847	0.21	6,68,682	0.42
2015-16	18,32,886	5,06,191	0.28	3,25,896	0.18	8,32,087	0.45
2016-17	20,46,401	6,07,861	0.30	3,56,091	0.17	9,63,952	0.47
	80,92,081	20,61,690	0.25	14,07,468	0.17	34,69,158	0.43
2017-18	23,21,241	6,05,186	0.26	4,05,958	0.17	10,11,144	0.44
2018-19	26,20,353	7,46,894	0.29	4,39,869	0.17	11,86,763	0.45
2019-20	26,70,138	6,50,687	0.24	5,34,567	0.20	11,85,254	0.44
2020-21	25,86,622	5,95,227	0.23	6,43,841	0.25	12,39,068	0.48
2021-22	32,25,165	8,83,100	0.27	6,22,628	0.19	15,05,728	0.47
2022-23	36,54,408	9,48,982	0.26	6,61,457	0.18	16,10,439	0.44
	1,47,56,686	38,24,890	0.26	29,02,362	0.20	67,27,252	0.46

For the five years from 2012-13 to 2016-17, the pre-GST period, the Centre collected 67% of the total tax revenue, while the States collected 33%. During the post-GST period (2018-19 to 2022-23), the ratio remained unchanged. As for revenue expenditure, the Centre incurred 47% and the States 53% in the pre-GST era. During the post-GST period, the figures were 48% and 52%, respectively. Increases in the Centre's revenue expenditure in recent years are largely attributed to the expansion of CSS on subjects that mostly fall in the domain of the States.

The expenditure commitments of the States are comparatively higher, as they are responsible for tackling the subjects of law and order, health, education, agriculture, and local self-government. As a result, States seek power to collect higher tax revenues, as the present fiscal policy of taxing power does not adequately address their requirements. Further, heavy dependence on Central transfers also creates problems such as liquidity management and the fear of political vendetta on the Opposition-ruled States.

As a way out, some States suggest that the example of Canada be followed where the federal government collects 46% of tax revenue and spends 40%, while sub-national governments collect 54% and spend 60%. Such a system gives more financial autonomy and flexibility to the States.

With rising public aspirations and widening service gaps, States' expenditure commitments are steadily increasing. GST introduction has altered the resource position of the States, in addition to centralising the authority to levy tax. The heavy dependence of the States on the Centre is creating friction, especially in the Opposition-ruled States. This is why many States and economists are calling for a restructuring of the tax sharing principle to enhance the States' fiscal autonomy.

Towards fiscal autonomy

States like Tamil Nadu have appointed a committee to examine Centre-State relations. It is against this backdrop that the recommendation is being made to share the tax base on personal income tax (IT) between the Centre and the States, on the lines of the GST. For instance, the share of Central tax devolution to States as per the 2025-26 Budget Estimates is ₹14,22,444 crore. If the personal IT base of ₹13,57,000 crore (BE 2025-26) is shared on a 50:50 basis with States where tax is collected, the Central tax devolution share to the States would effectively get reduced to ₹ 7,43,944 crore.

Alternatively, it is also suggested to empower the States to top up IT, without major changes to the current system of levy and collection.

Such an arrangement would reduce States' fiscal dependence on the Centre, improve liquidity, and allow progressive States – which contribute more tax revenue – to directly benefit from their higher tax base. The Centre will still have substantial leverage in resource sharing to correct fiscal imbalances, if any, through Central schemes, grants and usual tax devolution.

K. Shanmugam is a former officer of the Indian Administrative Service. He served as Chief Secretary of the Tamil Nadu government during 2019-21, after being the State Finance Secretary from 2010 to 2019

State inks pact with GAIL to generate gas from wet waste

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday said that the Karnataka government has signed an agreement with Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) to generate gas from wet waste in Bengaluru.

Mr. Shivakumar said that GAIL is setting up a ₹123 crore unit to generate gas from wet waste, and that State government has already allotted the land for the same. This, he said, is the first such initiative in Bengaluru and the government is ready to sign more agreements in this regard.

The plant will initially generate from 300 tonnes per day of wet waste, about 12 tonnes per day of compressed biogas, and 21 tonnes per day of Fermented Organic Manure (FOM). This will help reduce the problem of waste in Bengaluru, Mr. Shivakumar said, adding that the gas will be distributed to industries and hotels.

Three technical glitches on Yellow Line stretch in three months of service launch

A senior official from the BMRCL, responding to concerns about the repeated glitches, says the problems are not very serious

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Yellow Line is the first in Bengaluru metro's network to deploy driverless trains under the CBTC signalling system. K. MURALI KUMAR

Just three months after its inauguration, the Bengaluru Metro's Yellow Line, which connects the city's southern corridors and Electronics City, has already faced three technical snags, with the latest occurring on Wednesday morning.

On October 16, train set number 2, which was scheduled to begin operations from the depot at 7.04 a.m., was delayed by about 45 minutes due to an air pressure suspension fault, according to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) sources. Metro officials said the issue was rectified swiftly, and services resumed with minor delays.

This marks the third such disruption on the 18.82-km Yellow Line stretch connecting R.V. Road and Bommasandra since it opened for commercial operations on August 11, a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated it.

Earlier, on September 22 and October 12, the Yellow Line experienced brief service interruptions caused by technical issues. Responding to concerns about the repeated glitches, a senior official from the BMRCL said the problems were minor and not very serious.

"Each of these incidents involved a different issue and not a recurring fault in any particular train set. The Yellow Line uses a new generation of trains compared to the Purple and Green Lines, and as we transition to this advanced system, occasional technical adjustments are expected. These are minor teething issues, and all trains have been tested thoroughly as per protocol," the official said.

The Yellow Line is the first in Bengaluru metro's network to deploy driverless trains under the Communication-Based Train Control (CBTC) signalling system, a shift from the conventional DTG (distance-to-go) technology used on purple and green lines of the Namma Metro.

943 tonnes of rice being wasted in Bengaluru every year, says CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On the occasion of World Food Day, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah expressed concern that 943 tonnes of rice were being wasted annually in Bengaluru city alone.

Speaking at the World Food Day programme organised by the Food and Civil Supplies Department, the Chief Minister referred to the study by the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru, which had estimated food waste in Bengaluru to be valued at ₹360 crore annually.

> I know the suffering from hunger and the value of rice that is why the Anna Bhagya scheme was implemented
> **SIDDARAMAIAH**
> Chief Minister

"I know the suffering from hunger and the value of rice that is why the Anna Bhagya scheme was implemented," he said. Recalling how poet Da Ra Bendre offered his respects to farmers by describing them as Anna Brahmas, he said wasting food was an insult to the gods. Terming conscious food wastage as an act of arrogance towards food, he recalled that Mahatma Gandhi had called food wastage a sin.

"We were once dependent on America for rice, and now we have progressed to the point of exporting it to other countries. However, it is unfortunate that food wastage is also increasing," he remarked.

City likely to get Namo Bharat trains to boost regional connectivity

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru is likely to have a major leap in regional mobility, with plans to introduce semi-high-speed Namo Bharat trains linking Bengaluru to Kolar, Tumakuru, Mysuru, and Hosur. The initiative follows discussions between the State government and the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) to establish a Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) similar to the one operational in the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System.

Four corridors

According to senior officials, the NCRTC has proposed developing four Namo Bharat corridors radiating from Bengaluru: Bengaluru-Hoskote-Kolar (65 km), Bengaluru-Mysuru (145 km), Bengaluru-Tumakuru (60 km), and Bengaluru to Hosur to Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri (138 km), the last of which will extend into Tamil Nadu.

Proposed Namo Bharat corridors

- Bengaluru–Hoskote–Kolar: 65 km
- Bengaluru–Mysuru: 145 km
- Bengaluru–Tumakuru: 60 km
- Bengaluru–Hosur–Krishnagiri–Dharmapuri: 138 km (extends into Tamil Nadu)

A team of Karnataka officials recently visited the NCRTC headquarters in New Delhi to hold preliminary discussions on the project's feasibility, alignment, and technical design.

The proposed corridors could operate services every 15 minutes, with the frequency increasing to every five minutes during peak hours, says an official

Key feature

The Namo Bharat system, which allows trains to reach speeds of up to 160 kmph, is envisioned as a fast, frequent, and comfortable mode of transport for daily intercity commuters, according to officials. "The RRTS trains, designed for a top speed of 180 kmph, differ from both metro and conventional rail services; they have fewer stops than metro trains but operate more frequently than long-distance trains and do not require advance reservation," official said.

'World-class solution'

An official familiar with the project said the proposed corridors could operate services every 15 minutes, with the frequency increasing to every five minutes during peak hours.

"The RRTS represents a modern, world-class solution for regional mobility and could play a significant role in decongesting Bengaluru, alongside the ongoing suburban rail network," the official added.

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Any person/banking institutions/company, etc., has got any sort of legal right, claim, interest over the schedule property or having any sort of objection for the said sale transaction, shall approach the under mentioned Advocate within **15 days** from this day, with documentary evidence, failing which my client shall proceed further in accordance with the terms of the agreement to sell considering there is no objection to the said sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF residential site bearing **No. 59,** old No. 25, New V.P. khata No. 9/2, Situated at **Sai Lotus, channasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru,** and presently within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP having Property No. 2021/9/2/59 and E PID No. 1809682021 and measuring East to West **60 feet** and North to South **40 feet**, in all measuring **2400 Sq.ft:**

East by : Site No. 58
West by : Road
North by : Water Drainage Nala
South by : Site No.60

N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate
No.207, Ground Floor, 26th Cross,
Behind BWSSB Office,
Uttarahalli- Kengeri Main Road,
Poorna Prajna Nagar,
Bengaluru-560061.
Ph No. 93430 94442, 98459 31901

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

PROFORMA 10-01
INDIAN RAILWAYS
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the South Western Railway that the 25000 Volt, 50 Hz., AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as **LIVE** at all times and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line in Mysore stabling line 1, 2, 3 & 4.

Sl. No.	Section	Chainage in KM		Probable Date of Energization
1	Mysore yard stabling line 1, 2, 3 & 4	136/419	137/292	13.10.2025

Place: Bengaluru.
Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer
Traction Distribution-I/Construction/Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/563/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka, constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India, vide its letter **No. SEIAA 189 CON 2025** dated: 03.09.2025 has accorded Environmental Clearance to **M/s APG Skywards Private Limited** for Development of Residential Project at Sy. No. 50/1, 50/3, 51/1, 51/2, 51/3, 51/4 and 51/5, Chikkagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District.

Copy of the Clearance letter is available with the **SEIAA** office and may also be seen on the website of the **MOEF & CC** at https://parivesh.nic.in.

This Public Notice is issued in compliance with the conditions laid down in the above Environmental Clearance.

Sd/-

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION, Construction & Maintenance Group
ISRO -TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC) Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main,
2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058, Fax: 080-28094180, Ph:080-28094182, 4542

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of President of India, **Item rate E-Tenders** are invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works.

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/C/ETN-70/2025-26/ Dated: 14.10.2025**	**ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/C/ETN-73/2025-26/ Dated: 13.10.2025**
Name of work	**Refurbishment of Engineer's Seating place in MSA Building at SCC Campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru. (Civil Interior works)**	**Annual Service Contract for Providing Technical Service Support for maintenance of ISTRAC Ground Stations at Lucknow, Portblair, Trivandrum, Shillong, Jodhpur, Bhopal, Hassan & SDSC/SHAR.**
Estimated Cost put to Tender	**Rs. 24.90 Lakhs**	**Rs. 28.39 Lakhs**
Tender Document Details	**E-Tender**	**E-Tender**
Period of completion	**03 (Three) Months**	**12 (Twelve) Months (Department reserves the right to extend the contract for a further period of 24 months)**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 14.30 hrs on 17.10.2025 to 16.30 hrs on 31.10.2025**	
Bid Clarification	**From 15.30 hrs on 17.10.2025 to 16.30 hrs on 03.11.2025**	
Last date of reply to Bid Clarifications	**Up to 16.30 hrs on 04.11.2025.**	
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**Up to 14.30 hrs on 06.11.2025.**	
Due date and time of opening of tenders	**11.30 hrs onwards 07.11.2025.**	
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 49,800/-**	**Rs. 56,780/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)** for eligibility criteria and other details in website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1, BENGALURU
Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001

SALE PROCLAMATION-CUM-E-AUCTION
(Issued under Rule 52(2) of Second Schedule to the Income Tact Act, 1961 read with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 (as amended from time to time)
RC No.14311/2018 in OA No:1577/2016

Between:-
Bank of Baroda, Gauribidanur Branch, Gauribidanur Town-561208, Chikkaballapura District. **...Certificate Holder**
And
Sri. Gangadharappa R & Others **...Certificate Debtors**

To: **1. Sri. Gangadharappa R S/o Ramappa, 2. Sri Balappa S/o Ramappa, 3. Sri Narasimhamurthy S/o Ramappa,** Above all are R/@ Yarranagenahalli Village, D. Palya Hobli, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District
4. Sri Nagaraj S/o Ramappa, R/@ No.597, 8th 'D' Cross, III Main, Deevanara Palya, MSRIT Post, Bengaluru- 560022
5. Sri. M. Hanumanatha Reddy, Since deceased rep. by his LRs,
5.a. Smt. Shanthamma W/o M. Hanumantha Reddy, R/@ B.N.R. Galli, Kote, Gauribidanur Town, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District-561208.
5.b. Ms. Swapna D/o M. Hanumantha Reddy, R/@ B.N.R. Galli, Kote, Gauribidanur Town, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District-561208
5.c. Ms. Swathi D/o M. Hanumantha Reddy, R/@ B.N.R. Galli, Kote, Gauribidanur Town, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District-561208
5.d. Ms. Shruthi D/o M. Hanumantha Reddy, R/@ B.N.R. Galli, Kote, Gauribidanur Town, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District-561208

Whereas a Recovery Certificate was issued by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bengaluru under section 19(22) of the Recovery of Due and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 (amended from time to time) in **O.A No.1577/2016** between **Bank of Baroda Vs Sri. Gangadharappa R & Others,** which was forwarded to the undersigned authority for execution.

2. Whereas the undersigned authority-initiated execution proceedings in **R.C.No.14311/2018** for recovery of **13,07,913/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Seven thousand Nine hundred and thirteen only)** along with costs, expenses and interest as stated in the Recovery Certificate from the CDs, from the date of filing of O.A, till the date of final realization.

3. Whereas dues payable by CDs as on **20-09-2025** stands at **30,68,837.22/- (Thirty Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Seven and Paise Twenty Two Only),** expenses incurred/to be incurred in the recovery proceeding with further interest payable as per RC till realization.

4. Whereas the undersigned authority ordered sale of schedule attached property of certificate debtor/s mentioned hereunder in satisfaction of Recovery Certificate by adopting **"Online e-auction sale"** through the website of the service provider. The details of date of auction, last date for submission of Bid forms, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit, Bid Increase Amount and time of auction are mentioned here under against schedule property:

Property Details	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit & Date with time	Bid increase amount	Date, Time of auction*
Mortgaged Property described in the schedule here under	**Property in Lot 1:- Rs.62,80,000/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakhs Eighty Thousand only)**	**Rs.6,28,000/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Only) on or before 17th Nov 2025 , 03.00 PM**	**Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)**	**19-11-2025 11:00 AM**
	Property Lot 2 :- Rs.6,40,000/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Forty Thousand Only)	**Rs.64,000/- (Rupees Sixty Four Thousand Only) on or before 17th Nov 2025, 03.00 PM**	**Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)**	**19-11-2025 12:00 Noon**
	Property Lot 3 :- Rs.8,80,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Eighty Thousand Only)	**Rs.88,000/- (Rupees Eighty Eight Thousand Only) on or before 17th Nov 2025, 03.00 PM**	**Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)**	**19-11-2025 01:00 PM**

*Time of auction with an auto extension clause of 5 minutes each i.e e-auction end time will be extended by 5 minutes each, if a bid is made before closure of auction. The amount by which the bidding/s is/are to be increased shall be in multiple of **Rs.50,000 (Rs. Fifty thousand only).** In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount of bid, or as to the bidders, the lot shall at once be again put up to auction.

5. At the sale, the public are invited to participate in **"online e-auction"** through the service provider **M/s 4closure India Pvt. Ltd. www.bankauctions.in, e-mail Id: srinivas@bankauctions.in, info@bankauctions.in. Contact person: Sri. Srinivas - 8142000809.**

6. The intending participants/bidders are advised to contact service provider i.e M/s 4closure India Pvt. Ltd. www.bankauctions.in (Details provided above) for detailed terms and conditions of e-auction sale and are also required to contact the e-auction service provider for online registration, user ID, Password, help, to know procedure, online training about e-auction etc for submitting their bid forms and for taking part in e-auction sale proceedings.

7. The intending participants/bidders shall deposit EMD amount by RTGS/NEFT/Fund transfer to be credited to E-Auction collection **account No. 120002273740 Name: Recovery Officer - 1 with Canara Bank, Lavelle Road Branch, IFSC Code No CNRB0000887** and submit the Bid forms online with requisite details viz proof of deposit of EMD, Aadhar Card, PAN Card, Address & ID proof or other applicable KYC documents, on or before the last date mentioned in the above table. The hard copies of duly filled in along with self-attested copies of above documents by hand delivery/registered/speed post/courier to the undersigned so as to reach on or before **17-Nov-2025 by 3.00 PM.** The EMD received/deposited and uploading of bid forms in e-auction service provider portal after **17-Nov-2025 at 3.00 PM** shall not be considered. Postal delays are not entertained. Separate Bid forms should be submitted along with proof of deposit of EMD for each item property, if items are more.

8. The deposit of EMD amount and online submission of Bids should be completed by **17 Nov 2025 by 3.00 PM.** The EMD/s and Bid/s received thereafter shall not be considered. The said deposit be adjusted in the case of successful bidders. The unsuccessful bidder/s shall take return of the EMD directly from the above Bank after receipt of such report from e-auction service provider/bank/financial institution on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings.

9. Prospective bidder/s is/are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain user ID/password well in advance, which is mandatory for bidding in above e-auction through the e-auction service provider.

10. The intending bidder/participates are advised to contact **Sri. Ramamurthy BN, Branch Manager, Bank of Baroda, Gauribidanur Branch, Chikballapur Dist. Mob:9901700259. E-mail ID: vjgaur@bankofbaroda.com or D Murali Kumar, Chief Manager, Devanahalli Branch, Bengaluru Rural Dist., Mob: 9632121208. E-mail ID: VJDEBA@bankofbaroda.com** before date of auction sale, for detail terms and conditions, queries, knowing about pending litigation/s, guidance, inspection of schedule property/ies, perusal of copies of title deeds and latest encumbrances certificates to exercise due diligence and satisfy themselves about the title of property/ies which is/are under auction sale. The undersigned will hand over the property and related title deed documents, if any to the successful bidder in whose favour the sale will be confirmed by the undersigned.

11. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, if, found unreasonable or postpone/cancel the auction at any time without assigning any reason.

12. If, more than one item/property in the schedule, the property will be put up for the sale in the lots/item specified in the schedule. If, the amount to be realized is satisfied by the sale of a portion/item of the property, the sale shall be immediately stopped with respect to the reminder. The sale also be stopped, before any lot is knocked down, the arrears mentioned in the said certificate, interest costs (including cost of the sale) are tendered to the officer conducting the sale or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such certificate, interest and costs have been paid to the undersigned.

13. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Second schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the rules made there under and to the further following conditions: The particulars specified in the annexed schedule have been stated to the best of the information of the undersigned authority, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this proclamation.

14. The successful/Highest bidder shall be declared to be the purchaser of any lot/item provided that further that the bid/purchase amount quoted by him/her should not less than the reserve price. It shall be in the discretion of the undersigned authority to decline acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears so clearly inadequate as to make it in advisable to do so.

15. The Successful/Highest bidder/s shall have to pay 25% (including bid amount) of the purchase amount by way of RTGS/NEFT/Fund transfer to the credited to E-Auction collection **Account No.120002273740 with Canara Bank, Lavelle Road Branch, IFSC Code No.CNRB0000887 in the name of Recovery Officer 1, Debt Recovery Tribunal 1, Bengaluru 560001** by next date 3.00 PM. If, the next day is falls holiday or Sunday, then on next first office working day the above purchase amount to be deposited, failing which the earnest money (EMD) shall be forfeited.

16. Further, the successful/Highest bidder shall deposit, through NEFT/RTGS to the **120002273740 with Canara Bank, Lavelle Road Branch, IFSC Code No CNRB0000887,** the balance 75% of the purchase amount/ sale amount standing in the name of the Recovery Officer-1, DRT-1, Bengaluru or the mode of payment (as per details mentioned in para No.15 above) on or before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other public holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day along with the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs.1,000 and @1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs.1000/- on the purchase/sale amount should be paid in favour of Recovery Officer-1, DRT-1, Bengaluru through online i.e **www.bharatkosh.gov.in** by selecting the following.

Ministry- Department of Financial Services-Functional Head-Service Fees-POA CODE 006701, PAO, DFS, Nagpur and DDO code 206857, SO/DRT 1, Bengaluru.

17. In case of default of payment within the prescribed period as stated above, the property shall be resold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, any, if the undersigned thinks fit, be forfeited to the Govt. and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.

18. EMD and subsequent demand drafts if any, payable by such successful auction purchaser is to be collected by the authorized officer/Branch Head of CANARA BANK, LAVELLE ROAD BRANCH, BENGALURU (e-auction collection account maintaining with the Bank) from the undersigned who will be responsible for keeping the EMD of such successful bidder and remaining amount payable for such sale payable within 15 days in FDR form as directed by the Recovery Officer, in auto renewal mode and such original FDR is also to be submitted before the undersigned for records. On confirmation of sale by this Tribunal, the interest on EMD and subsequent payment of such sale shall accrue in the FD account and any claim by such successful auction purchaser for such interest on bid amount/EMD shall not be entertained.

19. What is proposed to be sold is/are the rights to which the certificate debtor/s is/are entitled in respect of the property/ies. The property/ies will be sold along with liabilities, if any. The extent of the properties shown in the proclamation is as per the property attached in the above proceedings. The undersigned authority shall not be responsible for any variation in the extent due to any reason. The property will be sold on **"as is where is"** and **"as is what is"** and **"no complaint basis",** Intending bidders are advised to peruse copies of the title deeds available with the bank and check the identity and correctness of the property details, encumbrances, inspection of the schedule property and pending litigation/s etc.

20. The detail terms and conditions is a part and parcel of this sale proclamation which is here with enclosed as **Annexure-A.**

21. The sale will be of the property of the above-named CD/s as mentioned here under and the liabilities and claims attaching to the said property/ies, so far as they have been ascertained, are those specified here under.

Attached property described in the schedule hereunder	Description of the property/ies to be sold with name of owners where the property/ies belonging to defaulter or any other person as co-owner.	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof.	Details of any of the encumbrance to which the property is liable	Claims if any which have been put forward to the property and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value.	Reserve Price	EMD
1	Details of the property mentioned in Sl No.8 in the Recovery Certifiacte & as Lot 1 in affidavit.	---	As per EC	Dues of Bank of Baroda, as per RC No 14311/2018 in O.A No 1577/2016	**Rs. 62,80,000/-**	**Rs. 6,28,000/-**
2	Details of the property mentioned in Sl No.7 in Recovery Certificate and mentioned as Lot 2 in affidavit.	---	As per EC	Dues of Bank of Baroda, as per RC No 14311/2018 in O.A No 1577/2016	**Rs. 6,40,000/-**	**Rs. 64,000/-**
3	Details of the property mentioned in Recovery Certificate as Sl No.1 to 6 & mentioned as Lot 3 in affidavit	---	As per EC	Dues of Bank of Baroda, as per RC No 14311/2018 in O.A No 1577/2016	**Rs. 8,80,000/-**	**Rs. 88,000/-**

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Lot-1: Land bearing Sy.No.60, measuring 3 Acres 37 Guntas, situated at Chinchanahalli Village, D. Palya Hobli, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura Distrcit. East by: Narayanappa Land, West by: Muddaiah Land, North by: Narayanappa Land, South by: Narasimhappa Land

Lot-2: Land bearing Sy.No.124, measuring 0 Acres 16 Guntas, Situated at Bommasandra Village, D. Palya Hobli, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura District. East by: Yarranagenahalli Village Limit, West by: Neeraganti Land, North by: Sy.No.123, South by: Halla

Lot-3: Land bearing Sy. No. 87/1, measuring 0 Acres 02 Guntas including Karab Land, Land bearing Sy. No. 87/4, measuring 0 Acres 01 Guntas, Land bearing Sy. No. 87/7, measuring 0 Acres 02 Guntas, Land bearing Sy. No. 87/12, measuring 0 Acres 05 Guntas, Land bearing Sy. No. 87/18, measuring 0 Acres 09 Guntas, Land bearing Sy. No. 87/22, measuring 0 Acres 03 Guntas, Above are situated at Bommasandra Village, D. Palya Hobli, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chikkaballapura Distrct. Common **Boundary bounded on:** East by: Gangadharappa, West by: Adinarayanappa, North by : Adinarayanappa, South by: Imam Land.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on 10th Oct 2025.

(Recovery Officer-1), DRT-I, Bengaluru

FORM No.14
[See Regulation 33(2)

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II BENGALURU, B.S.N.L.BUILDING 4TH FLOOR, TELEPHONE HOUSE RAJBHAVAN ROAD, BANGALORE-560001

TRC/2569/2017

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH, 26-26, M.G. ROAD BANGALORE 560 001 - Certificate Holder

Versus

M/S OLEANDOR CLOTHING ENTERPRISES & OTHER - Defendants

DEMAND NOTICE

1. M/s Oleandor Clothing Enterprises, Prop. Mr. Manjunath, Major, No. 70/8-1, 8th Cross Right side, Shankarappa Garden, Magadi Road, Bangalore 560 023.
2. Mr. Manjunath, No. 70/8-1, 8th Cross Right side, Shankarappa Garden, Magadi Road, Bangalore 560 023.
Also at: No. 1205, Kanga Street, Vijinapura, Doorvani Nagar, Bangalore 560 016
3. Mr. Munivenkatappa, Residing at No.64/3, 6th & 7th Cross, Vasanthanagar Bangalore 560 052

Defendants

In View of the Recovery Certificate issued in **O.A No. 1319/2015 passed by the Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore an amount of Rs.1,26,78,272/- (Rupees One crore twenty six lakhs seventy eight thousand two hundred seventy two Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from the date of filing of O.A.s till realization of the Recovery Certificate.

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay all charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the amount within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on 29th day of November 2017.

RECOVERY OFFICER-I
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2
BANGALORE

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below:

"Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment".

3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

(L-R) Tomoko Aran, Miki Matsubara, Mariya Takeuchi and Taeko Ohnuki. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The tragic nostalgia of Citypop and its legacy of melancholia

In the wake of Miki Matsubara's death anniversary, we revisit the lush, metropolitan sound that defined '80s Japan; tracing the tragedy of its doomed rise during the bubble economy, and its modern resurgence as a nostalgic soundtrack for a generation longing for lost optimism

Ayaan Paul Chowdhury

Two decades ago, Miki Matsubara died quietly in Osaka, far from the lights that once shimmered off her stage-ready smile. She was only forty-four, but her voice was already immortal. The woman who had given Japan one of its most enduring pop elegies – *Mayonaka no Door (Stay With Me)* – was gone, leaving behind an anthem that felt like a conversation between a nation at the height of its optimism and the generations born into its aftermath.

In the years since her death, Matsubara has become something of a ghostly emissary for an entire sound: Citypop, the gleaming, metropolitan dreamscape of late-70s and 80s Japan. Now revived through internet nostalgia, her song has become the entry point for millions who know nothing of the economic miracle it scored, nor the melancholia of the disillusionment that followed.

To understand Citypop is to understand the brief and blinding promise of the Japanese bubble years. The 1980s were a time of vertigo – Japan had remade itself into an economic superpower and its cities were pulsing with fluorescent excess. The middle class was swelling, the yen was strong, and an entire generation found itself equipped with disposable income and imported dreams. The thriving metropolises of Yokohama, Osaka and Tokyo had evolved into prosperous statements of arrival.

The soundscape of that ethos followed suit. The transistor, the Walkman and the high-fidelity stereo – all these inventions gave sound a new intimacy, and a way to carry the city in your pocket. Citypop thrived on that intimacy. It was sophisticated, smooth, cosmopolitan music made *by* city people, *for* city people, in an attempt to emulate the Western idea of the 'good life'. It borrowed from American funk, AOR, disco, and jazz fusion, yet what emerged was refined, melodically lush, emotionally ambivalent and distinctly Japanese. But most importantly, it captured a feeling of suspended euphoria – the feeling that the night, and perhaps history itself, would never end.

Birth of a moment

The genre's origins trace back to an unsuccessful folk-rock band with little influence at the time, Happy End, and their 1971 album *Kazamachi Roman*. By singing rock in Japanese, they broke the "language barrier" that had divided authenticity from aspiration. Music could now be proudly domestic while still looking outward. Their members – Haruomi Hosono, Eiichi Ohtaki, Shigeru Suzuki, Takashi Matsumoto – would go on to shape the entire sonic blueprint of modern Japanese pop.

From this lineage came the glittery sophistication of Sugar Babe's *Songs* (1975), where a young Tatsuro Yamashita began experimenting with harmonies borrowed from Steely Dan and the Beach Boys. Yamashita would later perfect the form in the early 80s with the seminal *Ride on Time* and *For You*, whose brass flourishes, chorused guitars, and boisterous optimism became shorthand for the bubble decade.

Alongside him rose formative artists like Mariya Takeuchi, whose *Plastic Love* (1984) captured the seductive loneliness of Tokyo's nightlife, and Taeko Ohnuki, who collaborated with Ryuichi Sakamoto on the rich, diaphanous *Sunshower* (1977). Anri had polished the breezy vocals of 1983's *Timely!!* into a blueprint for the modern urban romance that radiated confidence even if she couldn't stop the loneliness. The same year Tomoko Aran's *Fuyu no Mirage* brought a cool, nocturnal sophistication, with evocative layered synths and subtle disco inflections that The Weeknd reproduced in 2022's *Out of Time*. Junko Ohashi's *Magical* (1979) leaned into soft rock and orchestral pop, that lent the genre a cinematic sweep. Meanwhile, the likes of Toshiki Kadomatsu had become architects of Citypop's groovy elegance, with albums like 1982's *Sea Breeze* fusing jazz, funk, and R&B into an aural, high-rise soundtrack for ambition and contemplation.

But it was Miki Matsubara's genre-defining Shōwa-retro nostalgia piece that drew a more subtle bridge between youthful exuberance and urban melancholy. *Stay With Me* is deceptively bright, but its syncopated grooves betray tremors of longing and an ache for permanence in a city that never sleeps long enough to remember your name.

By the late 80s, the optimism had reached its crescendo. Tokyo's skyline bloomed with cranes, and champagne flowed through karaoke bars and glass-walled penthouses. The buoyant production and immaculate arrangements of Citypop, with songs about driving, loving and leaving; mirrored that lifestyle. And then, almost overnight, it was gone.

When Japan's economic bubble burst in 1992, the neon shine waned and the country entered its "Lost Decade." Youth unemployment rose, land values collapsed, and the language of ambition began to sound absurd. That once soundtrack of prosperity had suddenly begun to feel tone-deaf.

Some artists adapted, moving toward R&B or electronic music, but most faded into obscurity. Matsubara, who had already begun retreating from public life, stopped recording altogether by the late 90s. Her final years were spent in limbo, as the music she helped define drifted into the background of convenience stores and retro compilations.

Today, Citypop has found its second life in the digital century. Since the late 2010s, listeners around the world began stumbling upon the genre through online serendipity. A thumbnail of a neon skyline or a summery beach, a looping animation of a girl in headphones, or even a YouTube playlist titled *Citypop-core* – the aesthetic curiosities of this wistful decade bloomed into a global phenomenon.

Matsubara was barely twenty when she sang her song about a love that refused to fade with the dawn, and now decades later, that simple refrain has become the accidental epitaph for an entire genre. *Stay With Me* crossed millions of streams overnight and *Plastic Love* spurred a renaissance for that lost moment in time. The sound of a country dreaming itself modern has become the balm for a generation disillusioned with the modern world. For listeners scrolling through late-night feeds, these songs promised an elegia of imagined stability. The music of a vanished optimism had become the refuge for those who never knew it, and that once dismissed "music for salarymen," now circulates as the polished ancestor for vaporwave, sampled and re-contextualised into digital melancholia.

Citypop never truly died. It's been waiting in dormancy for the world to feel again what Japan felt at the end of its bubble, with the vertigo of decline and the ache of deferred futures. Perhaps that is why it resonates so much now, in this new era of evaporated certainties and algorithmic detachment. We too, live in a society obsessed with images of happiness it can no longer afford. The genre's longing optimism was fragile and its sadness is often disguised in groove, but we keep listening perhaps to stay with the night a little longer.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

Upendran

"My cousin has joined Brahmachari and Sons."

"Why has he joined that Mickey Mouse company?"

"It's not a Mickey Mouse company! It's owned by Mr. Brahmachari."

"When you call a business organisation a 'Mickey Mouse,' it means it is small and unimportant. For example, my cousin has a Mickey Mouse business set up in Hyderabad."

"Your cousins may be a Mickey Mouse company, but I can assure that Brahmachari and Sons is no Mickey Mouse company."

"Mr. Brahmachari calls himself the Managing Director, but the so called company is actually a Mickey Mouse operation which he runs from his house."

"What about your company? Is it a...."

"No, no! We have branches in all the Southern States. But unfortunately, I work in a department which is the Cinderella of the company."

"A 'Cinderella' department! "

"It's CindeRELLa, with the stress on the third syllable."

"I see. But what does 'Cinderella' mean?"

"A person or a thing that receives little attention or respect is often referred to as 'Cinderella'."

"Just like the Cinderella in the fairy tale!"

"That's right. "

"With the way our hockey team is doing, hockey may become the Cinderella of Indian sports."

"That's true. When my father was studying in college, I believe Physics was the Cinderella of the sciences. "

"Your father was a lucky man indeed."

"English literature and Home Science are considered to be Cinderella subjects."

"Meaning subjects which many people think are not important?"

"That's right!"

"Can I say, for some time Sujatha was the 'Cinderella' of our school debating team?"

"You certainly can. Many people believe that the Department of Education is the Cinderella department of our State Government."

"Who cares about education these days? No one! Who are you going to talk about next? Goofy?"

"Not a bad idea, actually! Considering the fact that I have a goofy person like you sitting next to me."

"What does 'goofy' mean?"

"It means a silly or a crazy person. For example, my boss gets some really goofy ideas sometimes."

"And one of his goofy ideas was to hire a goofy person like you, I suppose?"

"Maybe! By the way, how did you do in your test? Did you as usual goof in many places?"

"'Goof?'"

"One of the meanings of 'goof' is to make a mess of something."

"No, I didn't goof up in my test."

"Here's another example. Monica Seles had a chance of winning the French Open. But she really goofed up in the finals."

"In the play that I saw yesterday, the actor kept goofing up his lines. Can I say that?"

"You certainly can, goofy!"

Published in The Hindu on June 23, 1998

THE DAILY QUIZ

Diane Keaton passed away on October 11 at the age of 79. A quiz on the American actor

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1

This film, starring Keaton, was an adaptation of a novel by John le Carré. In the film, Keaton plays an actress who is sympathetic to the Palestinian cause. Name the film.

QUESTION 2

Keaton and X played a married couple in an iconic film and later dated on and off. The town that was part of the name of X's character was also where his grandfather was born, in Sicily. Name X and the character.

QUESTION 3

This film starring Keaton is about a communist activist who chronicled the Russian Revolution in a book titled *Ten Days that Shook the World*. Name the film.

QUESTION 4

In this film, Keaton plays a career-driven woman whose life turns upside down when she "inherits" a baby. The name of the film is also the term used when a large number of babies are born among a particular group of people at a particular time. Name the film.

QUESTION 5

Keaton frequently collaborated with X, a writer and comedian and director of more than 50 films. There were several allegations of sexual abuse against X, including by his adoptive daughter. Keaton stood by him through all of it. Name X.

Visual Question:

This role was written specifically for Keaton and she won an Academy Award for it. It not only defined her career but also made her a fashion icon. Name it.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The first question pertains to K.S. Ranjitsinhji. Name the English county for which the Indian prince turned out the most in his first-class career. **Ans: Sussex**

2. This Ranji great, who never played a single Test for India, is currently the coach of the Indian women's cricket team. **Ans: Amol Muzumdar**

3. Who holds the highest batting average (98.35) in the Ranji Trophy? **Ans: Vijay Merchant**

4. The person with the second-highest batting average (85.62) was also the youngest to score a century on debut in the Trophy. But another youngster, who tragically passed away in a road accident just after he turned 18, held the record of being the youngest to score 1,000 runs in the Trophy. Name him. **Ans: Dhruv Pandove (and Sachin Tendulkar)**

5. Which Bengal player holds the record for the most wickets in an innings (10/20) in an innings, which he achieved against Assam in 1956/57. **Ans: Premangsu Chatterjee**

Visual: Vidarbha won the Ranji Trophy for the third time in the previous season (2024-25). This bowler played a key role in this tournament win by picking 69 wickets, the highest in any Ranji season. **Ans: Harsh Dubey**

Early Birds: Haridas Pal | Arun Kumar Singh | Tamal Biswas | Siddhartha Viswanathan | Sukdev Shet

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Word of the day

Conjecture:
an opinion or conclusion formed without complete information

Synonyms: guess, speculation, belief

Usage: *Everyone's conjecture about the election results was wrong.*

Pronunciation:
newsth.live/conjecturepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /kəndʒektʃər/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Looking beyond virtual wars and knee-jerk fixes

Experts are of the view that the real solution to Bengaluru's infrastructure problems is returning to fundamentals with a focus on the long term

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Bengaluru's infrastructure crisis has become a lightning rod for outrage on social media platforms, which recently also became a sparring arena for industrialist Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and Cabinet Ministers who locked horns.

Beyond the virtual wars and knee-jerk fixes, what is the real solution to Bengaluru's woes? It's returning to fundamentals with a focus on long term, says experts.

'Crater' Bengaluru: The city's infrastructure crisis has become a lightning rod for outrage on social media platforms, SUDHAKARA JAIN

A governance issue

A. Ravindra, former Chief Secretary, Karnataka, feels that the lack of urban planning is at the root of the problem.

"While land use classification is one of the basic elements of a master plan, in Bengaluru it has not been followed strictly, resulting in a lot of commercial growth coming up even in areas that were supposed to be residential areas."

This, he notes, has been a major reason for traffic congestion, apart from the rising number of vehicles.

"Be it roads or flyovers or tunnel roads, there must be a certain plan to build them. In the last year, because the Deputy Chief Minister is also the Bengaluru Development Minister, there has been a flurry of activities. He seems to be in a hurry to build everything. But that will create its own problems," he says.

A housing problem

Ashwin Mahesh, urbanist, notes that the infrastructure issues that the city is facing is also very much a housing problem.

As per statistics, the city sees an inflow of around 3 lakh people every year. A large percentage of them moves towards eastern and southern Bengaluru, which also forms the IT corridor. In the absence of a plan, these regions have witnessed rampant construction, many of them illegal, notes Mr. Mahesh.

> While land use classification is one of the basic elements of a master plan, in Bengaluru it has not been followed strictly
>
> **A. RAVINDRA,** Former Chief Secretary, Karnataka

> By allowing construction to go unchecked, the government has put itself in a position where doing the right thing has become hard
>
> **ASHWIN MAHESH,** Urbanist

> Every day, 2,000 new vehicles are registered in Bengaluru, adding to the stress on our resources, not just traffic
>
> **SRINIVAS ALAVILLI,** Fellow, Sustainable Cities, WRI India

"People have built over regions where roads were supposed to come as per the masterplan. Is the government now willing to acquire that? By allowing the construction to go unchecked, the government has put itself in a position where doing the right thing has become hard."

Disproportional growth

Experts also note that while the city exploded over the years in terms of population, buildings, jobs, and vehicles, the growth of governance institutions and the physical and social infrastructure has not been proportional to the same.

"Every day, 2,000 new vehicles are registered in Bengaluru and that means many new families join our city, adding to the stress on our resources, not just traffic," says Srinivas Alavilli, Fellow, Sustainable Cities, WRI India.

In stretches like ORR, where the issue is more acute, a major issue is the low road density and narrow rural road networks beyond the tech campuses. "As a result, when there is a huge influx of people and vehicles, the pressure in that area is distinctly more," says civic evangelist V. Ravichandar.

The heavy-density stretch also lacks feeder roads, channeling all traffic to the main carriageway.

The answer to Bengaluru's woes lies in holistic development that goes back to the fundamentals, reiterate the experts unanimously.

Mr. Ravichandar takes the case of pothole fixing. "You need to fix the roads from the subgrade level. Just pouring some asphalt is not going to fix the core road," he says, adding that knee-jerk reactions do more harm by preventing long-term fixes.

When it comes to public transport, metro alone cannot be a silver bullet, he says, stressing the importance of suburban rail network and buses.

Role of citizens and corporates

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While the government needs to be held accountable, Srinivas Alavilli, Fellow, Sustainable Cities, WRI India, stresses on proactive measures from the corporates and citizens.

"I think the time has come for the leaders of large companies to appeal to their employees, in the interest of the city, to try to take public transport at least twice a week, and lead the way by walking the talk. By all means enjoy your car. But for daily commute to work, try and avoid driving," he suggests.

According to him, the focus should be on the annexed areas beyond ORR. "We should never forget that Bengaluru city is growing on all sides, and the infrastructure gap is high in many areas. Infrastructure is not just roads and flyovers, but also public health, anganwadis and more."

ORR infra issues set to end soon, says GBA Commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Outer Ring Road (ORR) is a developing area that continues to face issues related to roads and stormwater drains, but these problems are now in their final stages of resolution, said M. Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

"My predecessor has already taken the necessary measures to address the issues in that area. All those works are on the verge of completion," Mr. Rao said.

Mr. Rao made these remarks in the context of a letter sent by the Individual Tax Payers Forum (ITPF) from Varthur, Panathur, and Balagere, a citizens' group representing income tax payers, to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Rao said he had not received any information about such complaints so far, but added that citizens were welcome to raise their concerns.

"Potholes are bound to appear during heavy rains, but we are taking prompt action to fix them. During the monsoon, problems can arise even when quality work is done," Mr. Rao said.

At a meeting with all chief engineers, Mr. Rao directed them to prioritise pothole repairs along ORR. He instructed that similar measures be taken on arterial, sub-arterial, and ward-level roads to ensure safe and smooth commuting.

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. E-40/2025-2026 **E-TENDERS** Date: 15.10.2025

E-Developmental Tender are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vender must have Class-III Digital Signature and registrations on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence. **S. No., Tender No., (Due Date), Description and quantity.**

1. 10251277, (05.11.2025) Developmental Tender for CYLINDER HEAD STUD ASM, PL No. 16040028, 480 Nos. **2.** 10251048A, (29.10.2025) Developmental Tender for ECOTIP SUPERSTACK INJECTOR, PL No. 16241186, 64 Nos. **Bid No. E-40/2025-2026 Date: 10.10.2025 3.** 10251149, (06.11.2025) Gear Upper Idler Assembly, PL No. 16060519, 582 Nos. **4.** 10251109, (12.11.2025) NOZZLE RING, PL No. 16080610, 663 Nos. **Bid No. E-40/2025-2026 Date: 10.10.2025 5.** 05255215, (20.10.2025) Mig Mag Welding Pulse Type Power Source, 14 Nos. **Bid No. E-40/2025-2026 Date: 14.10.2025 6.** 06250005, (06.11.2025) Auxilliary Compressor, PL No. 29511010, 511 Set. The details of above tenders are available on website **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in.**

PRO/BLW/S-42 PCMM.

/blwvaranasi website: www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY **E-TENDER NOTICE**

Divl. Rly. Manager, N.W.Rly. Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works up to 15.00 hours on 06.11.2025 as below:- **Tender No.** : 186 **Name of work with its Location**: Ancillary works in c/w TBR (Loop lines) in Sarupsar- Sriganganagar- Hanumangarh (CLL) section (23.466TKm) under ADEN/Hanumangarh-II **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 8943267.13 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 178900.00 **Tender No.** : 187 **Name of work with its Location**: Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling in the jurisdiction of ADEN/N.W.Rly-Bhiwani. **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 1585498.32 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 31700.00 **Tender No.** : 188 **Name of work with its Location**: Outsourcing of patrolmen for cold weather patrolling in the jurisdiction of ADEN/N.W.Rly-Sirsa. **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 2219697.65 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 44400.00 **Tender No.** : 189 **Name of work with its Location**: Additional room & toilets for Running staff at Running room at Hisar under ADEN/Sirsa. **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 6434999.95 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 128700.00 **Tender No.** : 190 **Name of work with its Location**: Track work & other allied works in connection with provision of extension of existing TMC siding along with facilities in connection with RGM in the jurisdiction DEN/East under control of ADEN/Sirsa. **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 13175472.81 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 215900.00 **Tender No.** : 191 **Name of work with its Location**: Development of second entry & circulating area at Sirsa station of Bikaner Division under ADEN/Sirsa. **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 58728966.09 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 443700.00 **Tender No.** : 192 **Name of work with its Location**: Rebuilding of 22 nos various size RCC slab bridges by providing RCC box & jacketing of 20 nos. bridges in RE-BTI & BTI-SOG section under control of ADEN/Sirsa **Approx. Cost of work** : Rs. 95369659.28 **Earnest Money Rs.:** Rs 626900.00 **Note-** Other term & condition will be shown on N.W.Rly. website www.ireps.gov.in.

1327-DR/25

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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Open Tender through E-Tendering

CWM/Carriage & Wagon workshop North western railway Bikaner acting for and on behalf of the president of India invites E-Tender No. 09-MECH-BKNW-BVCM-25. **1 Name of work and its location :** Up-gradation of Brake Van (BVZI/BVCM) during POH at C & W Workshop, Bikaner. **2 Estimated Cost of work :** Rs. 3,72,35,119.75 (Inclusive of GST) **3 Earnest money :** Rs. 3,36,200.00 **4 Last Date and time for submission and opening of E-tender :** 06.11.2025 at 14:30 Hrs. E-Tender will be opened at 15:00 Hrs. on same day. **5 Website particular where complete details of e-tender can be seen :** www.ireps. gov.in

1324-DR/25

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the public that my client Sri. Pavan H.N. has lost the Original Gift Deed Doc. No. VJN-1-07657/2019-20 stored in CD No. VJND445 dated 20.11.2019 registered in office of Sub-Registrar Vijayanagar, while Transit at Magadi Bus Stop between 10.00 am to 11.30 a.m. on 05.08.2025.The said documents were related to Western portion of Property No. 58/3, BBMP Khatha No. 58/3, Situated at 4th Main Road, Kamakshipalya, BBMP Ward No. 102, Bengaluru measuring East to west 19 ft. North to South 30 ft. totally measuring 570 sq. ft. along with house thereon.

If any person/s who finds it, is requested to return the same to us at below mention address:

Subrahmanya Hegde, Advocate,
ANANDA & HEGDE LAW ASSOCIATES,
#76-77, Krishna Krupa Building,
GroundFloor, 2nd Main Road,
Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-20.

AXIS BANK **PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION**

Public Notice for – E-Auction of pledged assets being Gold Ornaments

The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledge in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch.

The below mentioned Borrowers has availed the credit facility from the **Axis Bank Limited** against the pledge of gold ornaments("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling up the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an e-auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property hereunder on **27.10.2025 at 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM on "As In Where Is", "As Is What Is", "Whatever There Is" and "No Recourse Basis".**

Details of Borrowers and outstanding amount

Branch Name	Loan A/c No.	Customer Name	Amount Outstanding	Date of Demand Notice	Gross Weight	Net Weight
Banashankari, Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx067467	Amaresh G N	3017923	06-Aug-25	432.700	425.400
Banashankari, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx506629	Basudev Pramanik	728126	15-Feb-24	222.800	164.600
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx726321	Fazia	2974614	31-Jul-25	491.800	474.800
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx695845	M Ashwathappa	1940254.41	31-Jul-25	329.600	313.100
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx872628	K Mohammed Sameer	755665.03	27-Sep-25	128.400	125.100
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx594276	Jagadish Reddy A	538279	16-Jun-25	99.500	90.500
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx025285	Iyappa S	268318	27-Sep-25	45.100	43.400
Bangarapet [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx697728	Srinivasa V	211242	12-Sep-25	37.200	36.100
Basaveshwarnagar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx525627	Raghavendra Krishna	1387860	27-Jul-25	224.600	220.000
Basaveshwarnagar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx555072	Krishnappa	67821	17-May-22	24.800	23.000
Belandur [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx875805	T Sivananda Reddy	1184824.63	31-Jul-25	258.600	192.600
Belandur [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx052067	Prabhakara B	32831	27-Sep-25	5.400	5.300
Bhattarahalli [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx942028	Rahul V	3867950	12-Sep-25	691.600	617.000
Bidadi, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx243813	Ambarish	218295	16-Jun-25	41.100	37.900
Bidadi, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx176443	Hemanth Kumar B	260901	29-Jul-22	57.100	55.000
Bommasandra [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx475969	Navaneedhan Mani	56764	27-Sep-25	11.500	11.100
Bommasandra [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx792593	Navaneedhan Mani	26249	27-Sep-25	5.100	5.000
Chikballapur [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx247048	Archana S	165115	27-Sep-24	35.600	33.300
Chikballapur [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx947364	Venkatesh . G	72441	31-Jul-25	11.580	11.180
Chintamani [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx990713	P Poojitha	299745	31-Jul-25	53.000	50.700
Chintamani [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx183449	Anil Kumar	167276	16-Jun-25	31.500	31.000
Chintamani [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx866474	N Babu	113135	31-Jul-25	19.200	19.200
Chintamani [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx790209	N Babu	57187	31-Jul-25	11.400	11.100
Electronic City, [Kt	xxxxxxxxxx284911	Dasgupta Kasturi	1242720	21-Jul-25	249.600	218.000
Electronic City, [Kt	xxxxxxxxxx419421	Roopa Bai B	102020.33	06-Aug-25	30.700	21.100
Electronic City, [Kt	xxxxxxxxxx192576	Munikrishna M	161655	24-Jan-22	36.300	35.000
Hoskote,[Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx769852	V Srinivasa	723054.18	31-Jul-25	129.400	121.700
Hoskote [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx693322	V B Narendra	99935	28-Nov-24	24.400	22.000
Indiranagar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx505959	Anandhu V V	41666	16-Jun-25	8.100	7.500
Iti Layout Kt	xxxxxxxxxx189849	Chandrakala .	520690.51	08-Apr-25	145.000	141.300
Iti Layout Kt	xxxxxxxxxx652615	Vinay S	34367	31-Jul-25	6.300	6.200
J C Road,[Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx179547	Naveenkumar D S	67050	31-Jul-25	13.500	12.500
J P Nagar, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx165438	Kumari Nupur	115578	27-Sep-25	20.600	20.000
Kadugodi [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx149349	M Leelu Teja	983972	27-Sep-25	156.200	153.000
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx770674	Madhumala V	1383343	27-Sep-25	249.600	231.600
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx774566	Madhumala V	1312192	27-Sep-25	219.200	205.800
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx455207	Manjunatha R	1047107	27-Sep-25	184.000	177.000
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx224097	Manjunatha R	762127	27-Sep-25	133.300	128.600
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx570510	Nafeesa Khanum	543859	27-Sep-25	85.300	83.200
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx218312	Shafeeq Parveez	297478.99	16-Jun-25	73.800	72.000
Kolar [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx154701	V Munirathna	103399.65	16-May-25	21.900	21.700
Koramangala, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx879161	Ajeeth N	587508	10-Oct-23	128.300	126.500
Mahadevpura [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx201962	Radhanath Parida	129848	16-Jun-25	25.200	24.900
Malur [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx932157	Lakshmi Kambale	465477	26-Jun-25	68.100	60.800
Marathahalli, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx607520	Manjunatha S	380097	19-Jul-21	110.500	106.000
Marathahalli, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx135039	Prathap. B.R	221379.14	27-Sep-25	39.000	38.500
Nagar Bhavi, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx432807	Girish H M	210051	27-Sep-25	45.950	42.250
Peenya, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx427830	Manjunatha L C	241776	27-Sep-25	38.400	38.400
Peenya, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx182139	M.T Sharath Kumar	161042	27-Sep-25	24.900	24.900
R T Nagar, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx822509	Mohammed Peer	122101	08-Feb-23	35.800	29.800
Sarjapur Road Kt	xxxxxxxxxx510178	M Godwin Nathan	67023	18-Jun-22	40.300	28.000
Shanthinagar, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx247429	Shiva Prasad C	223044	12-Oct-22	57.800	57.000
Shanthinagar, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx821170	Deepak R	76250.14	12-Sep-25	18.300	15.900
Vijayanagar, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx602830	E Gangadhar	1387628.57	27-Sep-25	278.500	240.500
Whitefield Main [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx019364	Sudheesh Kumar G	71529	16-Jun-25	15.700	15.500
Yelahanka, [Kt]	xxxxxxxxxx989195	Bhumireddy Sreekanth Reddy	454369	27-Sep-25	73.500	72.700

Axis Bank Ltd. has the authority to remove account/change the auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online https://gold.samil.in on 27.10.2025 between 12:30PM to 3:30PM.
For detailed Terms and conditions, please log into given website https://gold.samil.in (website of online vendor)

Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Axis Bank LTD.**

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vanajakshi, Spouse of Sakleshpur Chinappa Jagadeesha resident of 105, 1st C Main Road, 4th C Cross, Near Bethel church, OMBR Layout, Dodda Banaswadi, Bangalore - 560043, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from Vanajakshi to Vanajakshi K M Affidavit dated 14-10-2025 at Bangalore.

I, SHAIK Shakeer Hussain, R/at No.08, Ground Floor, 1st Cross Pipe Line Road, 10th Main S P Extension, Malleswaram, Bangalore North -560003, have changed my daughter's name from Shaik Aathifa Hussain to Shaik Aatifa Sharon vide affidavit dated 15-10-2025 sworn before Notary K.S.Giridhar, Bengaluru.

I, SHREYA Goni, D/o Sandhya Goni, R/at No.2, Ajantha Apartments, TF-302, N N Farms, 40 Feet Road, Near RMV Hospital, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore North-560094, have changed my name from Shreya Ashok Goni to Shreya Goni vide Affidavit dated 06/11/2021 sworn before Notary K.S.Giridhar, Bengaluru.

SITUATION VACANT

FINANCE

CA final with Tally and advanced excel not exceeding 30 years / bachelors and financial data analyst aged below 35 years having 5 years' experience.

Interested applicants shall email their updated CV mentioning the position applied and expected salary to info@new-oil.org

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, SHRINIVASA CHARI C, father of VINAMRATHA C.S (Old Name), residing at Bank Colony, Turuvanur Road, Chitradurga, Karnataka – 577501, do hereby declare that my daughter's name VINAMRATHA C.S has been changed to ABHISHA S (New Name). Vide affidavit dated: 14/10/2025,

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE Mayo Hall, C.C.H. No.29 Bangalore (HG 4/11/2025) P&SC 25055/2025

PETITIONER: Mr. Conrad Anthony Woolger, S/o. Late Mr. William Anthony Woolger, Aged about 70 years, Flat No.103, Rose Queen Apartments Road Lane, Richmond town, Bangalore-560 025.

Vs

RESPONDENT: NIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a petition have been made to this court under section 276 of the Indian Succession Act, for grant of probate of Will in respect of the immovable and movable properties of the deceased late Daphne Mary Borthwick who died on 6.9.2025.

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and the said petition is posted for hearing on 4.11.2025. All persons claiming to have any interest in the assets of the deceased may come and see the proceedings before grant of Probate with Will attached.

Given under my hand and seal of the court, this 13.10.2025

By order of the court,
Deputy Registrar City Civil Court
Mayo Hall Unit Bengaluru

Advocate for Petitioner:
Stanley Lazarus
Ms. Anisha Lazarus,
Advocates and Notary, 32,
Old Madras Road,
Bangalore-8

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Inviting of E-Tender Notice

मंडल रेल प्रबंधक इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी और से ई–निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमो के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रों में निविदा निम्न कार्यो के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है – **ई–निविदा सूचना सं.** : 99 of 2025-26 **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Raising of PF-1 from medium level to High Level with 03 seater benches, water booths at Bomadra, Rajkiawas, Kairla, Hanwant (04) stations and raising of PF2 from medium level to High Level with 03 seater benches, water booths at Salawas and Hanwant (02 stations) in the section of Sr DEN/Centra **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 8,60,10,537.85 **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 5,80,100.00 **ई–निविदा सूचना सं.** : 116 of 2025-26 **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Provision of 12 no. (Cattle Subways) at various locations on Merta Road - Jodhpur Section over Jodhpur division. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 34,73,78,507.49 **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 18,86,900.00 **ई–निविदा सूचना सं.** : 120 of 2025-26 **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Provision of 05 bed barrack for RPF Staff at out post Luni **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 15,60,186.87 **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 31,200.00 **ई–निविदा सूचना सं.** : 123 of 2025-26 **कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Upgradation / Augmentation of Satellite Track Machine depot Basni Jodhpur **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : 94,29,010.59 **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : 1,88,600.00 निविदा सूचना सं. **99 of 2025–26** (निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि **24.10.2025** को 15.00 बजे तक) **116 of 2025–26** (निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि **30.10.2025** को 15.00 बजे तक) **120 of 2025–26** (निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि **04.11.2025** को 15.00 बजे तक) एवं **123 of 2025–26** (निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि **07.11.2025** को 15.00 बजे तक) वेबसाइट का विवरण जहां पर ई–निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है– **www.ireps. gov.in**

1323-DR/25

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 35 UBL 2025-26 Date : 09.10.2025

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 4,09,42,227/-

Sub Work-I :- Proposed construction of Goomty building (one at each end) at Papinayakanahalli, Kariganuru stations for modernization of signalling system by provision of Electronic interlocking system. **Sub Work-II :-** Proposed construction of S&T building at Papinayakanahalli, Kariganuru stations for modernization of sigalling system by provision of Electronic interlocking system.

2	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 4,09,42,227/-

Sub Work-I :- Proposed construction of Goomty building (one at each end) at Bellary Cant and Kudatini stations for modernization of signalling system by provision of Electronic interlocking system. **Sub Work-II :-** Proposed construction of S&T building at Bellary Cant and Kudatini stations for modernization of sigalling system by provision of Electronic interlocking system.

3	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 3,94,32,844/-

Sub Work-I: Proposed construction of S&T training center at Hubballi. (Balance work). **Sub Work-II:** Dharwad - Augmentation of Training Facilities at training center.(Balance work)

4	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 52,12,051/-

Repairs to pipeline for over head tank and its surrounding area at Belagavi Railway station

5	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 2,31,94,738/-

Strengthening of pit line -1 in Hubballi (UBL Yard)

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11.00 Hours on 07-11-2025
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination
PUB/548/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Hubballi**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 29/MYS/2025 of 09.10.2025.

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Main Work-1:-**	Rs. 4,11,43,730/-

Mysuru - AUGMENTATION OF MECHANISED LAUNDRY FROM 3.5 TO 7 TON/DAY CAPACITY. **Sub Work-I:** Construction of laundry shed (30m x 16m). **Sub Work-II:** Construction of ETP Shed (8m x 8m). **Sub Work-III:** Construction of Service Room (30 x 6.5m) (G+1). **Sub Work-IV:** Construction of OHT (30 KL capacity). **Sub Work-V :** Construction of two GLRs for ETP plant (30 KL capacity) & for washing purposes (30 KL capacity). **Sub Work-VI:** Unfiltered water supply distribution lines. **Sub Work-VII:** External Sewerage. **Sub Work-VIII:** Drainage Arrangements. **Main Work-2:** Mysuru- Improvements to pit line cat walk of Pit line-1 & 2. **Main Work-3:** Mysuru - Provision of CC flooring between IOH shed and service rooms for material movements

2	**Sub Work-I:**	Rs. 3,78,44,246/-

Sakleshpur - Improvements to UGD arrangement at Sakleshpur colony. **Sub Work-II a:** Subrahmanya Road :- Improvements to colony road (infront of Qtrs No.19 AD to 12 AD-165m, Infront Qtrs No.4AB to 11AD-120m and Road to 1/ Subrahmanya Road-60m) Total 345m. **Sub Work-II b:** Kabakaputtur :- Improvements to approach road to Kabakaputtur Colony (Connecting Qtr 37 AD to APMC Road -230m X 3.60m. **Sub Work-III A-** Kabakaputtur :- Provision of Platform Shelter (IRS) to full-length at PF No-1 at Kabakaputtur railway station. **Sub Work-III B-** Kabakaputtur:- Provision of Platform Shelter (IRS) to full-length at PF No-1 at Kabakaputtur railway station (PF Widening)

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11.00 Hours on 31-10-2025
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination
PUB/549/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Mysuru**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

HAL
A Maharatna CPSE

A New Flight of Self-Reliance

Inauguration of

3rd Production Line of the LCA Mk1A

and

2nd Production Line of the HTT-40

by

Shri Rajnath Singh

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri

Friday, October 17, 2025 • 11:30 hrs
HAL Nasik Division, Ojhar, Maharashtra.

Today, HAL stands at the forefront of India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission, reinforcing it's commitment to innovation, quality and national security.

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Cabinet approves Bengaluru Business Corridor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

For easing traffic in Bengaluru, the Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday approved the long-pending 117-km Bengaluru Business Corridor (BBC), formerly known as the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR), to connect Electronics City with Tumakuru Road and Mysuru Road. It will be a tolled corridor.

Briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said the corridor would be completed in two years. Earlier, the estimated cost was ₹27,000 crore, but it would be reduced to ₹17,000 crore by giving four options of compensation to land losers. The Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) would develop the BBC. The HUDCO has decided to lend for the project.

Much-delayed

The corridor, which was earlier planned in 2007, has had its implementation delayed owing to several reasons, including land acquisition cost.

Mr. Shivakumar said that the government has offered to farmers or land losers five options: compensation in cash, Transferable Development Rights (TDR), utilisation of Floor Area Ratio (FAR) on their remaining land, residential plots nearby BDA layouts , and developed commercial land (35% of land) in the corridor.

The BBC will become a landmark project that transforms connectivity, drives investment, and shapes the city's next phase of growth.

Earlier, it was to be a 100-metre road. But now, the road would be 65m wide. To reduce the burden of compensation, it was decided to give 35m of developed land near the road to farmers for commercial purposes. The compensation in cash would be given to those who lose less than 20 guntas of land, he said.

The compensation will be two times the guidance value in the corridor's stretches passing through urban areas and three times the value in rural areas. The other compensation schemes include granting additional FAR for those losing the land or issuing "TDR as per BBMP" (now GBA) norms, he said.

For those who are seeking a residential site, Mr. Shivakumar said the site would be given in one of the BDA developed layouts.

Apart from bringing down the overall cost of the project, most of which is required for land acquisition, the new compensation measures for land losers are expected to speed up the project, which has been in limbo for almost two decades.

Mr. Shivakumar estimated that a reduction of about 40% of the traffic entering the city would occur once the corridor is constructed.

Jurisdictional dispute stalls civic works, residents endure unsafe stretches on southern fringes

Abhinaya M.
BENGALURU

Residents and commuters along the Rayasandra Circle-Choodasandra Circle stretch on the southern outskirts of Bengaluru are facing severe hardship as incomplete drain work and damaged roads have made daily travel unsafe and life-threatening.

It extends from Doddamara Road to Kodathi and from Rayasandra Circle to Gattahalli. Residents in the vicinity alleged that a jurisdictional dispute between the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and the Shantipura Gram Panchayat had brought all developmental work to a standstill. The situation, persisting for several months, has left thousands struggling to navigate open trenches and potholes on roads, with little sign of progress in repair or maintenance.

The condition of roads along the Rayasandra Circle-Choodasandra Circle stretch.

Suresh Nair, a resident of an apartment complex on Hosa Road, told *The Hindu* that the drain work, which began several months ago, has been left incomplete, leaving open trenches and piles of debris that pose a constant danger. "The stretch near Mahaveer Ranches Apartment has become particularly hazardous. The open drain has worsened the already damaged road, making it nearly impassable for two-wheelers and pedestrians. The road is so congested that it takes nearly 30 minutes to cover just 500 m," he said.

"People are risking their lives every single day while crossing these stretches," said Nayan Jyoti Bhagwati, adding that several minor accidents have already occurred due to the open drains and uneven roads.

MLA M. Krishnappa told *The Hindu* that he had directed immediate start of construction work. "I approached the Shantipura Gram Panchayat to provide space for drainage outlets from Rayasandra Circle," he said.

The lack of coordination between different agencies had left people to bear the brunt of administrative negligence. However, the work finally began on October 12 after multiple complaints.

Student found murdered in Malleswaram

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 20-year-old BPharma student was found murdered with multiple injuries near the railway tracks behind Mantri Mall in Malleswaram on Thursday afternoon.

The deceased has been identified as Yamini Priya, a resident of Srirampura. She was returning home after appearing for an exam at her college.

Initial probe revealed that the assailant followed Priya and allegedly attacked her with a lethal weapon, stabbing on her neck and back multiple times before fleeing from the spot. She died due to excessive bleeding.

The murder came to light when passers-by noticed the victim lying dead on the roadside and alerted the police. The Srirampura police arrived at the scene and conducted spot investigations, before shifting the body for post-mortem. Authorities are checking the CCTV footage from in and around the area to identify the assailant. Early investigations reveal someone could have killed Priya after she rejected his proposal, the police said.

BRIDCUL (ब्रिडकुल)
ब्रिज, रोपवे, टनल एण्ड अदर इन्फास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लिमिटेड
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम) पूर्व में उत्तराखण्ड राज्य अवस्थापना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
प्रधान कार्यालयः अवस्थापना भवन, 583–ठ, राजकीय आई०टी०आई० निरंजनपुर के सामने, माजरा, सहारनपुर रोड़, देहरादून– 248001
CIN No - U45203UR2008SGC032591 टैलीफैक्स– 0135–2522941, ई–मेल – bridcul@gmail.com

Ref : - 2297/BRIDCUL- 969(Elect)/25 Dated: 16/10/2025

E-Tendering

On behalf of Hon'ble, Governor of Uttarakhand, E-Tender are invited by Managing Director BRIDCUL, from the Contractors registered with BRIDCUL only in Category-II (Rs. 02 to 05 Cr.) for the work given as below:-

S. No	Ref No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost (In Lac including GST)	Earnest Money (In Lac)	Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.)	Time Period
1	BRIDCUL/HQ HLD/57/2025 -26	Internal Electrification & Allied works for Working Women Hostel at Transit Camp, Rudrapur.	239.72	4.79	5000 + 18% GST	18 Months
2	BRIDCUL/HQ HLD/58/2025 -26	Internal Electrification & Allied works for Working Women Hostel at Fulsungi, Rudrapur.	462.51	9.25	5000 + 18% GST	18 Months

For above tenders, document download start date is 18.10.2025 and Bid submission end date is 03.11.2025 at 1500 Hrs. The details of e-tender of above work can be obtained directly from website https://uktenders.gov.in
Changes, if any will be intimated only through website https://uktenders.gov.in

DGM (HQ)

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, DHARWAD
Estate Branch, Krishinagar Dharwad - 5
E mail: estateofficer@rediffmail.com Epabx:+91-836-2214332/216, 444
No.EO/DB/TN/e-Proc.T-128 HP/2025-26 Date : 15.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (III RD CALL)

Tenders have been re-invited from registered OEMs/ Authorized dealers, for works at various campuses of the University. The details of the tender can be had through e-procurement portal (http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). For more details please contact **0836-2214332** during office hours. Interested agencies need to register with the e-Procurement portal for participating in the tender. For details of registration please contact ph. No : **080-46010000**.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1	Last Date & Time for Tender Queries / Clarifications.	**18.10.2025**	Up to	16.00 Hrs
2	Date & time of Pre Bid meeting	**21.10.2025**	At	11.00 Hrs
3	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders.	**23.10.2025**	Up to	16.00 Hrs
4	Date & Time for Opening of financial bid (single cover) & Technical Bid (two cover).	**24.10.2025**	At	16.15 Hrs
5	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid. (two cover)	**25.10.2025**	At	16.00 Hrs

Note : The bidders shall get updated / acquainted with ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM (if any) issued on-line from time to time on the e-procurement portal during the entire tender process.
DIPR/Dharwad/KSMCA/770/2025-26 **Sd/- Estate Officer**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
M.I & G.W.D.D. DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR
No.EE/MID/VJP/AE-1,2,3,4/SCP-TSP/TND/2025-26/2516 Date: 16.10.2025

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department, Division Vijaypur invites work tenders from Eligible Contractor through "E-Procurement" on item rate Tender for following works as per KTPP Act-2000 and latest amendments.
4702- SCP Works:- Total 11 Works/Package Works, Estimated Cost **Rs.57.60 Lakhs**, **Tender Period for the above works are Three(3) Months including monsoon.**
4702- TSP Works:- Total 2 Works, Estimated Cost **Rs.7.20 Lakhs**, **Tender Period for the above works are Three(3) Months including monsoon.**
Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka Public Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home under login for Contractors from **17.10.2025.** Tenders may be submitted on electronically in KPP portal up to **17-30 hrs.** on **28.10.2025.** Interested contractors information regarding works may be obtained from this office or KPPP helpdesk (Ph.No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227) upto **17-30 hrs.** on **27.10.2025.** Tenders shall be quoted without adding GST and other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, MI & GWDD Division, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/403/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Stores & Purchase Department, Central Offices, Sarige Sadana, Main Road, Kalaburagi - 585 102.
Tel. & Fax No. 08472-260502, COS&P- 77606 86172 , S.O -77609 92029

No. KKT/CO/COS&P/ 07 /2025-26 Date: 15.10.2025

Tender Inviting Notice (through KPP portal mode only)

Tenders through KPP portal (pre-qualification & commercial) are invited for procurement of following goods and services

Sl. No	e-Tender No. & Date	Tender Nomenclature	Estimate Value (Rs.)	Last date for submission of tender
1	KKRTC /2024-25 / IND0113 / CALL-3	Supply of Body Worn Camera	**Rs. 7.60 Lakhs**	11.11.2025 15.00 Hrs.
2	KKRTC /2025-26 / SE7123	Selection of Payment Service Provider (PSP) to incorporate UPI Payment Solutions in KKRTC Buses	-	25.10.2025 up to 17:00 hours
3	KKRTC /2025-26 / IND0172	Supply of Air Filter, Fuel Filters and Oil Filter	**Rs. 4.42 crores**	20.11.2025 up to 15:00 hours
4	KKRTC /2025-26 / IND0137Call-2	Supply of GHT Bolt and GHT U Bolt with Nyloc Nut	**Rs. 32.00 Lakhs**	20.11.2025 up to 15:00 hours

All the details of Tender, Registration, Tender form documents etc. are available at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home. Mail to cospnekrtc@gmail.com or support@eprochelpdesk.com for further information if required. Further, any addendum / corrigendum related to changes in terms and conditions of tender, specification and calendar of events etc. will be uploaded only through KPP portal.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/624/2025-26/Deshpande Publicity **Sd/-Controller of Stores and Purchases**

Office of the Project Director PMU(RWSRPD)& Chief Engineer Water Resources(North) Hanumangarh

Notice Inviting Bid

(NIB Code-WRN2526A0100)

Bid for 07 Nos. of works related to **Construction of WUAs Buildings** under jurisdiction estimated cost of work from ₹ 0.73 Crore to 2.26 Crore is invited from prospective bidders up to 29.10.2025 Time 06.00 PM. Other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, of the state and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.

UBN No.-WRN2526WSOB00303, WRN2526WSOB00304, WRN2526WSOB00305, WRN-2526WSOB00306, WRN2526WSOB00307, WRN2526WSOB00308, WRN2526WSOB00309

(Pradeep Rustagi)
Project Director PMU (RWSRPD) & Chief Engineer water resources(North) Hanumangarh
DIPR/C/15247/2025

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Corporate Office : No. 67, Anna Salai, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032. Ph.: 044 - 22301094-97, 22354415-16/18

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Description	Due date
252613 004974	Customs Clearance (CHA) & Transportation of Paper / Board in containers for export through Chennai / Kattupalli / Ennore / Tuticorin / Cochin Ports from TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram and Unit - 2 at Mondipatti.	04.11.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. For further details please visit websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/5712/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, 21/1, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜೆಲ್ಲೇಟಾ ಟವರ್ಸ್, ಮಿಷನ್‌ರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560027.

ಸಂ: ಜಂನಿ/ಸಕಇ/ಬೆಂ(ನ)/ಲೆಕ್ಕ/ಇಆರ್–22/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.10.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

2025–26 ಮತ್ತು 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲುಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ/ ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ನಂತರದ/ ವಸತಿ/ ಆಶ್ರಮ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಹ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ / ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ/ಅರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.10.2025 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.11.2025ರ ವರೆಗೆ** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, 21/1, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜೆಲ್ಲೇಟಾ ಟವರ್ಸ್, ಮಿಷನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸಂಪಂಗಿರಾಮನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560027 (ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–22240449/ 9480843019) ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಅನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಎಸ್ಎಸ್ಸಿ/3308/2025–26

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through e-Procurement Portal (Website URL: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) for below mentioned works:

SHARAVATHI HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS

(1) No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2011/Call-2, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply of 2 Nos. of Transformer Oil Cooler Pumps for Sharavathy Generating Station, KPCL, Jog falls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 5,353/-.**

(2) No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2012/Call-2, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply of total 16 Nos. of Winding and Oil Temperature Gauges with Remote Indicators and Remote Indicators WTI/OTI for Generator Transformers of SGS, KPCL, Jog falls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 6,376/-.**

(3) No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2096, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply of 1 No. 110kW Soft Starter for Sharavathy Generating Station, KPCL, Jog falls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 10,325/-.**

(4) No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2097, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply of 8 Nos. of 250NB Centric Disc Butterfly Valves and 02 Nos. of 250NB Butterfly Valve along with actuator for Sharavathy Generating Station, KPCL, Jog falls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 9,188/-.** Last date and time for receipt of tenders for Sl. No. 1 to 4: **27.10.2025 up to 16.30 hrs.**

Further details can be had from Executive Engineer (MSP)J, KPCL, Jogfalls-577435, Dist. Shivamogga. Mob: 9449598847. e-mail: **eemspj@gmail.com**

(1) No.: KPCL/2025-26/SE0289, dated 11.10.2025 for **Operation and maintenance of drainage galleries at Linganamakki Dam".**

(2) No.: KPCL/2025-26/SE0290, dated 11.10.2025 for **Operation and Maintenance of power supply and internal Communication at Kargal and Linganamakki colonies, Linganamakki and Talakalale dam and other connected areas of Kargal power supply group.** Last date and time for submission of tenders for Sl. No. 1 & 2: **27.10.2025 up to 17.00 hrs.**

Further details can be had from Executive Engineer (O&M) LPH, Linganamakki Power House, KPCL, Linganamakki-577421, Sagara Tq., Shivamogga Dist.

(1) No.: KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3391, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply, installation and commissioning of 1 No. of rugged Laptop computer for installation of application tools for diagnostic tests on 220KV switchyard components at Sharavathy Generating Station, Jogfalls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 7,320/-.**

(2) No.: KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3417, dated 10.10.2025 for **Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 2 Nos. of new Laptops for the relay testing/communication works and conduction of other diagnostic tests of equipment at Sharavathy Generating Station, Jogfalls-577435.** EMD: **Rs. 3,675/-.** Last date and time for submission of tenders for Sl. No. 1 & 2: **24.10.2025 up to 16.30 hrs.**

Further details can be had from the office of the Executive Engineer (Controls), Sharavathy Generating Station, KPCL, Jogfalls-577435, Sagar Tq., Shivamogga Dist. Mob: 9141611886

KARNATAKA SILK INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
3rd & 4th Floors, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru – 560 001
Ph: 080- 25586550/25586402 Email: info@ksicsilk.com

NO. KSIC/PD/SWF/S-S-C-W/01/2025-26 Date: 16.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

Tenders are invited from reputed persons/firms for Entrusting Work of Stainless Steel Cladding for 04 Nos of Degumming Tanks at KSIC, SWF, Mysuru Unit-1 Dyeing Section.

Tender Documents, details of the Notification, schedule terms & conditions can be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Last date and time for uploading the tender along with **EMD of Rs. 25,000/-** through KPP Portal is **15.11.2025 upto 3.00 P.M.** The Technical bids will be opened on **17.11.2025 at 03.30 P.M.** Further details can be had from the office of the Undersigned during working hours or KPP Portal help desk -080-46010000, 080-22631200.

Sd/-
GENERAL MANAGER(Proc)
DIPR/CP/JA/3315/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division,
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, **Email ID:** eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Tender Notification No. 29/2025-26 DATED: 15.10.2025

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, devnahalli & Nelmangala Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published for 10 work **(Rs.14.50 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

1.Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 30.10.2025**

2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **31.10.2025 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.
DIPR/CP/3305/NR/2025-26

INNOVATE KARNATAKA | K-tech

CALL FOR PROPOSALS (EXTENSION OF DATE)

Ref: KITS/IT/SUCO/57/2025-AA-KITS

KITS invites applications from eligible Educational Institutions across Karnataka to establish Innovation Labs for the FY 2025-26, under LEAP (Local Economy Accelator Program).

The interested Educational Institutions are required to submit an application in the prescribed form along with the necessary enclosures available in the department website: https://eitbt.karnataka.gov.in/ along with Annexures (printed on letter head) should be emailed to **leap.innovationlab@gmail.com** at with subject line "Selection of the Educational Institutions for Establishing Innovation Labs", Call for proposals document can be accessed on the department website-QR code.

Scan for Apply

The deadline for submission of application is **Extended up to 30/10/2025, 5:00 PM**. Refer Call for proposals document for eligibility criteria and other conditions.

Sd/-
Managing Director

KARNATAKA INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (KITS)
Department of Electronics, IT & BT, Government of Karnataka
BKG Sapphire, # 59, 3rd Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020. Tel: 080-22231006
E-mail: leap.innovationlab@gmail.com

DIPR/CP/3312/AKAR/2025-26

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, OCT. 17
RISE 06:10 SET 18:00
RISE 02:43 SET 15:24

SATURDAY, OCT. 18
RISE 06:10 SET 17:59
RISE 03:32 SET 16:00

SUNDAY, OCT. 19
RISE 06:10 SET 17:59
RISE 04:18 SET 16:35

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	27	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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Rules in force during approval time apply for building plans: HC

BBMP challenged the May 2024 judgment that rules prevailing on date of submission of application for building plan sanction are applicable

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi, passed the order while allowing an appeal filed by BBMP

The building plans can be sanctioned only according to the building rules or regulations prevailing at the time of sanctioning of the plans and not as per the rules or regulations existing on the date of submission of application for plan sanction, said the High Court of Karnataka.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi passed the order while allowing an appeal filed by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), which had challenged May 2024 judgment of a single judge, who had said that rules prevailing on the date of submission of application for building plan sanction are applicable.

In 2013, Sangam Enterprises got approval from BBMP for constructing a commercial complex with multiplex comprising a basement, ground floor, first floor, second floor, third floor, and terrace conforming to the height of 15 metre.

Firm purchases TDR

Later, the firm purchased certain Transferable Developmental Rights (TDR) and then sought sanction from BBMP for modified plan in 2014 to add two more floors, while seeking 50% relaxation in set back area based on the provisions of the revised master plan prevailing during that period.

However, the BBMP did not consider grant of modified plan by insisting on no objection certificates from different authorities. Following this, the firm applied for modified plans in 2017 after obtaining NOCs and insisted that plan be sanctioned with 50% relaxation on set back area as per the rules prevailing in 2014 even though relaxation to set back was reduced to 25% in 2015 by amending the relevant rules. The single judge, while allowing the petition filed by the firm, had directed the BBMP to issue modified plan as sought by the petitioner-firm.

Calcutta HC's view

However, the Bench said that conclusion of the single judge was contrary to the 1992 and 2004 verdicts of the apex court, which had upheld Calcutta High Court's view that 'building plans can only be sanctioned according to the building regulations prevailing at the time of sanctioning.'

Educationists call UGC's Learning Outcome-based Curriculum Framework unscientific, outdated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

'The contents of the draft framework could promote an unscientific bent of mind and push the country centuries backward'

Eminent educationists from across Karnataka have called for the rejection of the University Grants Commission's (UGC) draft Learning Outcome-based Curriculum Framework (LOCF), terming it unscientific, outdated and a threat to the autonomy of universities.

During a discussion organised by the All India Save Education Committee (AISEC), Karnataka chapter, on Thursday, A. Murigeppa, former Vice-Chancellor of Hampi Kannada University, questioned the intent and relevance of introducing subjects such as shlokas, panchangas, and vastu in an era dominated by artificial intelligence, while V.N. Rajashekhar, vice-president of AISEC Karnataka, who moderated the session, said formulating curricula was the prerogative of individual universities and statutory academic bodies, not the UGC.

"The contents of the draft framework could promote an unscientific bent of mind and push the country centuries backward," he said. R. Ramanujam, mathematician and professor at Azim Premji University, said the major portion of the LOCF curriculum was outdated and unscientific and must be rejected.

Manjunath Krishnapur, mathematics professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), argued that the draft LOCF looks like it was generated by ChatGPT due to its random and poorly referenced content.

Personal beliefs

Educationists pointed out that personal beliefs should not be propagated through education, and that curriculum design must involve open debate. Many termed the UGC's move as an effort to centralise education.

RGUHS signs MoU with GTEC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) on Thursday entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Global Training and Education Centre (GTEC) at Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (WWL), England, on the RGUHS campus. The MoU is aimed at building a global platform for healthcare education, training, research, and workforce development.

Under this, RGUHS and GTEC will undertake initiatives focused on creating structured pathways for Indian doctors and healthcare professionals, exchange and fellowship programmes, research and capacity building, technology-enabled learning, and continuous professional development.

प्रबंधन अध्ययन विभाग
Department of Management Studies
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
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IMPORTANT DATES

Application Opens	September 06, 2025
Application Deadline	October 19, 2025
Selection Process and Results	November 2025
Classes Commence	January 2026

For details on selection process and to apply, please visit
https://doms.iitm.ac.in/emba/
Coordinates:emba@iitm.ac.in ; 9840572328/044–2257-5558
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Survey findings

- **91%** of women said the scheme improved their financial situation
- **80%** saved up to ₹1,000 a week on commuting costs
- **96%** of women beneficiaries have used the service, the highest among all five guarantees
- **19%** of respondents gained new or better jobs
- **83%** reported better access to healthcare
- **83%** experienced improved family relationships
- **72%** felt more confident and empowered

Source: Survey report entitled 'Impact evaluation of the five guarantees of the Government of Karnataka'

Shakti scheme boosted economic independence of women across State: Survey

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

An independent survey of the Karnataka government's Shakti free bus travel scheme for women has found that more than 91% of respondents said the Shakti scheme improved their financial situation, with over 80% saving up to ₹1,000 a week on commuting costs. The report highlights the transformative impact of the initiative on women's economic independence, mobility, and employment across the State.

The "Impact evaluation of the five guarantees of the government of Karnataka", conducted by independent policy consultant Tara Krishnaswamy in collaboration with Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) and Indus Action Initiatives, assessed the effectiveness of the scheme over a year.

According to Ms. Krishnaswamy, the study surveyed 6,125 women heads of households across 15 districts and held in-depth qualitative interviews in five districts, examining the programme's outcomes through a gender lens. The report found that the Shakti scheme recorded the highest saturation level among all five guarantees, with 96% of women beneficiaries having used the service. "For many, the savings have directly boosted household finances. Daily wage earners, in particular, were found to save almost one-third of their weekly earnings thanks to free travel," she added.

According to survey report, Shakti has redefined women's access to employment, education, and healthcare. About 83% of women said they could now access better medical facilities, while an equal proportion reported improved family relationships as they were able to visit relatives and children more frequently.

19% of respondents across Karnataka said they gained new or better jobs due to Shakti. "The impact is particularly striking in districts such as Chikkamagaluru (44%), Bengaluru Urban (34%), and Kolar (28%), where women said free bus travel allowed them to pursue better-paying jobs farther from home," Ms. Tara said.

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Notice Inviting Expression of Interest
(RIL/E&P/EOI/2025/04)
(Under International Competitive Bidding)
for
For Block No. KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6)

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is India's largest private sector company, with a consolidated revenue of ₹ 10,71,174 crore (US$ 125.3 billion), cash profit of ₹ 1,46,917 crore (US$ 17.2 billion) and net profit of ₹ 81,309 crore (US$ 9.5 billion) for the year ended March 31, 2025. Reliance's activities span hydrocarbon exploration and production, petroleum refining and marketing, petrochemicals, advanced materials and composites, renewables (solar and hydrogen), retail, digital services, and media and entertainment. Currently ranked 88th, Reliance is the largest private sector company from India to be featured in Fortune's Global 500 list of 'World's Largest Companies' for 2025.

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as operator, on behalf of itself & its co-venturer BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced Contractors/ Vendors for following categories, for Deep-water Block No. KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) in East coast of India.

Category Number	Category Description
OAM/KGD6/2025/01	General Construction services for Operation & Maintenance (O&M) related projects at Onshore & Offshore
OAM/KGD6/2025/02	General Engineering services for O&M related projects at Onshore & Offshore
OAM/KGD6/2025/03	Supply of construction related bulk items for O&M related projects at Onshore & Offshore
OAM/KGD6/2025/04	Asset Integrity Management services for assets including life extension and obsolescence studies, advanced NDTs, RCM and Risk Based inspection study & implementation at Onshore & Offshore
OAM/KGD6/2025/05	Design, Engineering, Supply of Equipment & Material and provision of Services for Security & Plant Surveillance and Security Automation System
OAM/KGD6/2025/06	Hiring of Accommodation vessel / AWB with DP capabilities
OAM/KGD6/2025/07	Pigging Operations for 12" Effluent Pipeline
OAM/KGD6/2025/08	Subsea Pipeline & Manifold Life Extension
OAM/KGD6/2025/09	CRP Underwater Jacket Inspection
OAM/KGD6/2025/10	Condensate Displacement via Pigging
OAM/KGD6/2025/11	Progressive Cleaning & Intelligent Pigging of 24" Subsea Pipeline
OAM/KGD6/2025/12	Procurement, Construction and Installation Services for OT modifications related to installation of Flare Gas Recovery Unit (FGRU) Facilities and associated Civil and Piling works
OAM/KGD6/2025/13	Construction & Installation Services for OT modifications related to installation of Hydrocarbon Dew Point Depression Unit (HCDPDU) Facilities incl. associated Civil & Piling works and supply of misc. project items
OAM/KGD6/2025/14	Third Party Inspection Agency Services and Technical Verification related to review of design & engineering documents; onsite surveillance, inspection and testing for OT modification project related to installation of HCDPDU facilities & other O&M Projects
OAM/KGD6/2025/15	Supply of Equipment, Materials and Bulks for OT modifications related to installation of HCDPDU Facilities & other O&M Projects
OAM/KGD6/2025/16	Miscellaneous Services such as MWS Services, Logistics & Transportation Services for HCDPDU Facilities & other O&M Projects
DEV/KGD6/2025/17	Engineering, Procurement, Installation & Commissioning (EPIC) of Subsea Facilities, rigid & flexible pipelines, umbilicals and flying leads for Deep Water Field Development
DEV/KGD6/2025/18	Project Management Consultancy Services for Deepwater Field Development

Interested Contractors/Vendors are requested to visit our website **www.ril.com** (eB2B> Suppliers> E&P Notices for EOI) for further details on the above and submit their EOI through e-mail on **Deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com**, **on or before 7 November 2025**. Subject of the mail should mention **"RIL/E&P/EOI/2025/04"** along with category number. For documents size beyond 10 MB, Contractors/ Vendors should request RIL through e-mail to provide FTP link for uploading EOI documents.

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for Purchase of Old Helicopters
(RIL/E&P/EOI/2025/05)

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as operator, on behalf of itself & its co-venturer BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for purchase of JV owned Old Bell make Model 412EP Helicopters – 2 Nos. on 'as is where is' basis from interested parties. Interested parties may visit our website **www.ril.com** (eB2B>Notices) for further information and submit their EOI through e-mail on **Deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com on or before 7 November 2025**. Subject of the mail should mention **"RIL/E&P/EOI/2025/05"**.

Address for Communication
Chief – Supply Chain Management,
Reliance Industries Limited, Petroleum Business (E&P),
Reliance Corporate Park (RCP),
Building No 11, 'A' Wing, Second Floor,
Thane-Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai - 400 701, India.
Email: Deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com
CIN: L17110MH1973PLC019786

Reliance Industries Limited
Growth is Life

Women with metabolic syndrome face higher risk of gynaecological cancers: Study

Metabolic syndrome is a complex cluster of metabolic disorders that includes obesity, hypertension, hyperglycaemia, high triglycerides and low levels of HDL cholesterol

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Based on the findings, it is recommended that the management of metabolic syndrome should become a key component in the prevention and treatment of gynaecological cancers.
PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE

Women with metabolic syndrome (MetS) face a significantly elevated risk of developing several gynaecological cancers, according to a new systematic review published in the Indian Journal of Medical Research (IJMR).

The analysis, conducted by researchers from the ICMR-National Institute of Reproductive and Child Health (NIRRCH), Mumbai; M.S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru; and Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), Kochi, assessed global evidence on the link between MetS and cancers of the ovary, endometrium, cervix, vagina and vulva.

Metabolic syndrome is a complex cluster of metabolic disorders that includes obesity, hypertension, hyperglycaemia, high triglycerides and low levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol. Its prevalence increases sharply with age - from about 13% among young adults (18-29 years) to nearly 50% by the age of 50 - and is more common among women (35%) than men (26%).

Across study types

The review found that women with MetS had markedly higher odds of developing several gynaecological cancers. Based on case-control studies, the odds ratio (OR) for endometrial cancer was 1.99, indicating nearly double the odds of developing the disease among women with MetS compared to those without. For ovarian cancer, the odds were even higher (OR 3.44), suggesting a threefold increase in risk. Cervical cancer also showed elevated odds (OR 1.9), while smaller but significant associations were noted for vaginal and vulvar cancers.

In cross-sectional studies, the odds of developing endometrial cancer were more than twice as high (OR 2.64) in women with MetS. Similarly, cohort studies, which track participants over time, revealed a 45% higher risk (hazard ratio, HR 1.45) of endometrial cancer, a 26% higher risk (HR 1.26) of cervical cancer, a 49% higher risk (HR 1.49) of vulvar cancer, and a 54% higher risk (HR 1.54) of vaginal cancer among women with MetS compared to those without.

India-specific data

"It was surprising to note that despite the growing burden of MetS and associated non-communicable diseases in India, we did not find any Indian study that could be included in this analysis," said Susan Idicula-Thomas, corresponding author and scientist at ICMR-NIRRCH. "This underscores a significant gap in our understanding of comorbidity risks among Indian women. Without population-specific data, it becomes difficult to translate these insights into actionable strategies," she said.

Indra Kundu, PhD scholar at ICMR-NIRRCH and first author of the paper, said that the wide variations in study design and population characteristics across the reviewed literature made comparing risk estimates challenging.

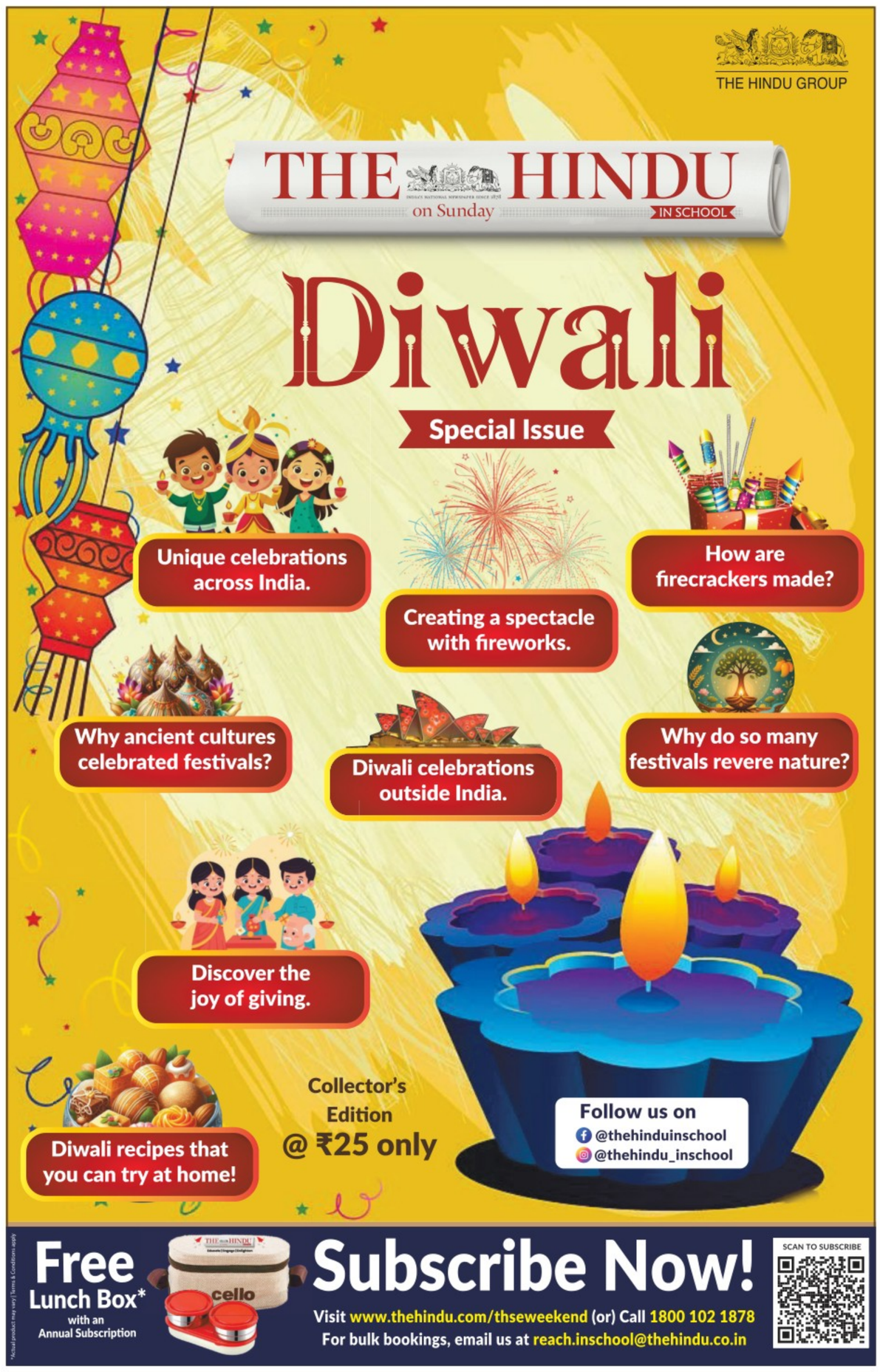
Preventive strategies

Emphasising the public health implications, Denny John from M.S. Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences said, "The study underscores the importance of integrating women with existing metabolic disorders, such as diabetes, into preventive health programmes. This is crucial for both primary prevention and early detection."

Based on the findings, the authors recommend that management of metabolic syndrome should become a key component in the prevention and treatment of gynaecological cancers.

They stress the need for primary prevention and early detection efforts, especially for women with fully developed metabolic conditions such as diabetes.

The researchers also called for large-scale, prospective cohort studies in the Indian context.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Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India
Jamai Osmania Post, Tarnaka, Hyderabad - 500 007, Telangana State, India.

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN NUTRITION

A 10-week annual Post-Graduate Certificate Course in Nutrition (PGCCN) will be held in ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad from **5th January to 18th March 2026.** Application form may be downloaded from **www.nin.res.in** filled-in form should reach NIN as **hard copy only** before **12th November, 2025. Further details : Tel.No.040-27197247, Email : petninhyd@yahoo.com**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/ BGKT/Tr(OP)Z/SEE (O)/AEE-2/25-26/11257-63 Date: 16.10.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL MODE ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites tender on Electronic mode for the following work on **Partial Turnkey basis.**

Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TRNS/BGKT/110KV/STND-45/25-26/SUVARNA SOUDHA **Tender No.** KPTCL/2025-26/SS/WORK_INDENT2855 for Creating 33kV reference by providing 1x20MVA, 110/33kV Power Transformer & construction of 1 no of 33kV Terminal Bay at **110kV Suvarna Soudha sub-station Belagavi Taluk & District arranging additional power supply to an extent of 2700kVA (Totalling to 3200kVA on 33kV) to the existing HT installation having CD of 500kVA on 11kV bearing RR** on HT – 207 bearing in favour of Airport Director, Airport Authority of India, **Sambra village in Belagavi Taluk & District, including supply of equipments / materials, erection, civil works, testing and commissioning.**

The tenders will be received through E-procurement portal only. The details regarding participation in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after 16:30 Hrs IST of **17.10.2025.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele)., Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, 110Kv Sub-Station Premises, Navanagar, Bagalkote - 587103.

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536625, 080-25536105

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/ Tubuler Heat Exchanger to Mother Dairy/ 02073/2025-26 Date: 15-10-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible manufacturers/ authorised dealer through KPP Portal for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested manufacturers /Suppliers who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of completion
1	Design, supply, Installation & Commissioning of 30 KLPH- Heat Exchanger at Mother Dairy, Yelahanka.	1 Job	36,000/-	3 Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 17-10-2025 To 03-11-2025 up to 4.00 PM
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: To 03-11-2025 up to 4.00 PM
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 04-11-2025 at 4:30 PM.

For Karnataka Milk Federation Limited
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

(Govt. of Karnataka)
KARNATAKA MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, HUBLI
KMCRI/EO/Tender/419/2025-26 Date:16-10-2025

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರು ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಆರ್.ಐ. ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ 'ಇ' ಟೆಂಡರ ಮೂಲಕ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ **PMSSY** ಸೂಪರ ಸ್ಪೇಶಾಲಿಟಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ನವೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ.

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಗುತ್ತೇದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಕೆಡಬ್ಲು-4 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ 'ಇ' ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಾಗಿನ ಆಗಿ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದು. ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- (ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು),
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ದೂ: 08227-261232
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_tnarasipura@yahoo.com
ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.tmarasipuratown.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಪುಸ/ತಿನಪುರ/ಕಿಅ/ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಎಫ್‌ಸಿ&15ನೇ ಹ.ಯೋ/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.10.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2024-25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ. 2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್‌ಎಫ್‌ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ್ ಮಿಷನ್-2ರ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಸ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಘಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಾಗಿರುವ ಲೆಗೆಸ್ಸಿ ವೇಸ್ಟ್ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲವನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಹಾಗೂ RDF transportation ಗಾಗಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಾಲ್ತಿ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ 4ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ KW-1, KW-2 & KW-3 ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಅನ್ವಯ ಹಾಗೂ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ 2000ರ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕಕಾಯ್ದೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು http://kppp.karnataka.gov.inನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷರತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಸ್ತಾವೇಜ್‌ನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 31.10.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ.** 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03.11.2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	DMA-2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47948/CALL-2	55:00	93220
2	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47946/CALL-2	50.00	84740
3	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47945/CALL-2 (Cat-IIA)	50.00	42370
4	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47944/CALL-2 (Cat-IIA)	70,00	59350
5	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47940/CALL-2	50.00	84750
6	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47939/CALL-2	50.00	84740
7	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48008	50.00	84650
8.	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT 48007 (Cat-I)	70.00	59350
9	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT50591	1.70	4250
10	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT50592	4.59	11475
11	DMA/2025-26/SE6128/CALL-2	73.66	124850
12	DMA/2025-26/SE6125/CALL-2	10.09	25225

ಸೂಚನೆ: 1) ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ	ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ	ಸಹಿ/- ಸ್ಥಾಯಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ	ಸಹಿ/- ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ

DIPR/MYS/1088/SA/2025-26

THE NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Corporate Identification No. U74140DL1955GOI002481

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (EoI)
Join Hands with NSIC

Start your own Training – cum – Incubation Centre!

NSIC Training-cum-Incubation Centres (NSIC-TICs) provide an opportunity to unemployed people to acquire skill through training and enterprise building. NSIC invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible parties for Empanelment as Master Franchisee for setting up NSIC-TICs under the PPP mode across the country.

For further details, please refer CPP ePublishing Tender ID - 2025_NSIC_815236_1 available at the following links:

https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app OR https://www.nsic.co.in/Tenders/Index

Last date for proposal submission: 10.11.2025 by 17:00 hrs
(All updates/corrigenda will be published only on the above- mentioned links)

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Office of the Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields Phone : 08153-276100, Email: spkgf@ksp.gov.in
NO:STS:365:2025-26 T-1 Dated: 13.10.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The tender are invited in "Two cover system" as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through e-tender of Government of Karnataka Website **(https://kppp/karnataka.gov.in)** for selection of supplier for the Supply of the following items required to the police stations across KGF Police District.

SL NO	Tender NO	Particulars	Last date for submission of Tender
1.	KSP/2025-26/IND0342	Body Worn Cameras	DT:28.10.2025
2.	KSP/2025-26/IND0342	Docking Stations	

For further details of the tender documents can be obtained from the Public procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Superintendent of Police, KGF Police District
DIPR/KOLAR/RO:316/KSMCA/2025-26

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit-1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Unit-2 : Kagitha Nagar, Mondipatti, Manapparai Tk, Trichy - 621 306, Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Description	Due date
252613 004930	Procurement of Cationic Starch (In Jumbo Bags) for Unit - I.	30.10.2025
252613 004940	Procurement of Caustic Soda Lye for Unit - I & II.	30.10.2025
252623 002801	Procurement of Clay No-1 (Spray Dried) for Unit - II.	30.10.2025
252613 004935	Stretch Film 50 Microns 50CM Width - 22/24/50 CM Dia. For Unit - I & II.	30.10.2025
252613 004937	720 GSM Kraft Corrugated Circular Disc (5 Ply) - 97 CM for Unit - I.	30.10.2025
252613 004941	300 GSM Circular Grey Board Disc - 93/95 CM for Unit - I & II	30.10.2025
252643 000019	230 GSM & 350 GSM Core Board Bobbins of various sizes for Mayanur Plant. (Core Strength: Min. 7500 KG/M)	30.10.2025
252643 000020	230 GSM & 350 GSM Core Board Bobbins of various sizes for Mayanur Plant. (Core Strength: Min. 8500 KG/M)	30.10.2025
252613 004996	Higher Bulk BCTMP - HW 80 for Unit - I.	28.10.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. For further details, please visit websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/5694/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bengaluru – 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

PENSION ADALAT

Pension Adalat for Pensioners and Family pensioners of Rail Wheel Factory will be held at **11.00 hrs on 15.12.2025 (Monday),** at Conference Hall, Administration Building, Rail Wheel Factory to redress the grievances of Pensioners/Family Pensioners pertaining to "PENSIONARY BENEFITS" only.

Pensioners/Family Pensioners may send their grievances with full details addressed to Assistant Personnel Officer, Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560 064 to reach on or before **15.11.2025** in an envelope duly superscribed as "PENSION ADALAT" – 2025 or they can also e-mail their grievances to **ks.poornima@gov.in**

Cases involving purely legal or policy matters will not be entertained in the Pension Adalat.

PRINCIPAL CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER

ICTS INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL SCIENCES
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research tifr
An Autonomous Institute of the Department of Atomic Energy of Government of India and a Deemed to be University
No 151, Shivakote, Hessarghatta Hobli, Bengaluru (North)-560089, India, Tel : +91-80-46536000

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Advertisement No: ICTS-Notice-2025/05 **Date: 17 October 2025**

The Centre is looking for highly motivated and self-driven individuals for an appointment for the below posts at its Bengaluru Campus.

Sl No.	Position	Section	No. of posts	Upper age limit (as on 1st July 2025)	Consolidated Monthly Emoluments
1	Project Scientific Assistant B	Web	1	28	63100
2	Project Scientific Assistant B	Faculty Secretariat	1	28	63100

Candidates should apply only ONLINE latest by **Friday, 07 November 2025.** For more information, please visit the website **www.icts.res.in.**

Establishment Section

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Portal only)

Tenders are invited in e-procurement portal for the following procurements through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (1) KPCL/2025-26/IND2049.** Fasteners. **(2) KPCL/2025-26/IND2082.** Compression springs for side arm changer. **(3) KPCL/2025-26/IND2083.** Conveyor pulleys. **(4) KPCL/2025-26/IND2084.** Plumber Block. **(5) KPCL/2025-26/IND2085,** Valves. Contact Person **Executive Engineer (Purchase),** Mobile: 9480830377. **(6) KPCL/2025 26/PS/WORK_INDENT3598, Dated: 14.10.2025,** Sale of accumulated Mill Reject waste coal on as is where is basis stored at Bellary Thermal Power Station Mill reject yard. **(7) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3596, Dated: 14.10.2025,** Sale of Anticipated Mill Reject waste coal stocked on daily basis at Bellary Thermal Power Station Mill reject yard. Contact Person **Executive Engineer (Fules), Mobile:** 9480830342. **(8) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3456, Dated: 13.10.2025,** Monitoring and verification process for PAT-VII Cycle in accordance with notification G.S.R. 269 (E) of 30th March 2012 by BEE Empanelled Accredited Energy Auditors for Thermal Power Sector of Ballari TPS units (2 x 500 MW & 1 x 700 MW). Contact Person **Superintending Engineer (E&P),** Mobile: 9448290592. Last date for receipt of tenders: **23.10.2025, (Sl.No.1), 21.10.2025, (Sl.No.2 to 5), 13.11.2025 (Sl.No.6 & 7).** BTPS, KPCL, Kudithini, Bellary-583 152, **E-mail: eepurchasebtps@gmail.com, eefuelsbtpskpcl@ gmai.com.**

DPR being prepared to revive HMT, says HDK

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy on Thursday said that a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is being prepared to revive the prestigious HMT factory.

Speaking to presspersons in Mandya, Mr. Kumaraswamy said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, efforts were under way to rejuvenate both HMT and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant in Bhadravati. Several rounds of discussions had taken place in this regard, he added.

V.K. Saraswat, a member of NITI Aayog, had submitted an important report on the revival of HMT, Mr. Kumaraswamy said. High-level meetings had been held in New Delhi with senior officials of the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI), the Managing Director of HMT, and Mr. Saraswat, the Minister said.

Mr. Kumaraswamy said that a team led by the Additional Secretary of MHI and the Managing Director of HMT were also sent to Japan to explore possibilities of technical collaboration.

The Minister stated that the people of Mandya had long aspired for industrial establishments in the district. "I have sought cooperation from the State government and have also held discussions with several industrialists in Delhi on setting up industries in Mandya," he said.

Traffic jams around ORR make commute a nightmare for children

Hundreds of school buses operate in and around Doddakannalli, Adarsh Palm Retreat, and beyond; stretches in this area are frequent victims of ORR-induced congestion and increased movement of vehicles on the connecting roads

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A school bus stuck in a traffic jam on the Outer Ring Road near Bellandur on Thursday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The ripple effect of traffic from the Outer Ring Road (ORR), coupled with narrow lanes, has become a major concern for commuters on connecting roads, particularly for school buses, as vehicles crawl along these stretches every day during peak hours.

For instance, hundreds of school buses operate in and around Doddakannalli, Adarsh Palm Retreat, and beyond. Stretches in this area are frequent victims of ORR-induced congestion and increased movement of vehicles on connecting roads, which try to avoid the ORR.

Three major roads connect to the ORR through this zone: Doddakannalli-Bellandur Road, Ambalipura-Sarjapura Road, and Doddakannalli-Kadubeesanahalli Road via Devarabeesanahalli Road.

50 school buses

Priyanka Bhargav, an employee of a private company in the area and parent of a schoolgirl, explained that there are at least 50 schools within a 10-km radius, some of which have between 500 and 1,000 students. "To transport them, hundreds of buses operate in the area, adding to the existing traffic. As a result, travel time in the evening can take two or more hours to cover just 6 to 8 km," she told *The Hindu*.

"This week, a seven-year-old child who sits next to my eight-year-old daughter felt claustrophobic during a prolonged bus journey. In such situations, all they have for company are other children who are more or less the same age," she added.

Crying during commute

Tahnee Nagaich, a class 11 student at a private school in Gunjur who resides in Adarsh Palm Retreat, described her daily commute to school and back as a "nightmare". "Forget about us, it's heartbreaking to see primary school children in our bus going through such hardships. We have children crying during the commute on a regular basis," she said.

Ms. Nagaich further added that teenage girls face different challenges. "If girls are on their periods and need to access a washroom during such traffic jams, where should we go?" she asked. "There are also neurodivergent children who struggle during these nightmarish journeys and start crying," she added.

"I was born and brought up in Bengaluru, but I have never seen such terrible traffic," she said.

Adding to this, Namratha (name changed), another resident of Adarsh Palm Retreat, said her friend's children were stuck in traffic on Doddakannalli Road for two hours on Wednesday. She eventually had to pick them up herself, as it would have taken even longer for them to reach home.

"When I went to pick them up, I saw children crying because they couldn't get home. The bus had become suffocating," Ms. Namratha said.

Need clearance

Gopal M. Byakod, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South), admitted that traffic congestion on the ORR's connecting roads is a persistent issue, compounded by several bottlenecks, including the AET junction and ongoing infrastructure works. "Traffic personnel are at all these junctions, but many smaller roads also need clearance. Our personnel have to keep patrolling these stretches, which means at least one bottleneck often remains unmanned," he explained.

To address the issue, the police are working with the Greater Bengaluru Authority and are expected to come up with a solution soon, according to Mr. Byakod.

Hoysala team rescues elderly woman, reunites her with family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 78-year-old woman, identified as Basamma, who had lost her way home and had been wandering the streets of Begur for many hours, was rescued by the Hoysala patrolling team, led by Assistant Sub Inspector Satish Kumar, recently.

Basamma, a native of Vijayapura, had come with her 82-year-old husband to visit her son, Chandrashekhar Hiremath, a software engineer working in an IT firm in the city.

Basamma was not familiar with the city and went near a park after breakfast for a walk, and lost her way to Lakshmi Layout in the Begur Industrial area. In her search for the house, she reached a tailor shop. The shopowner offered her food and water before alerting the police. By then, it was around 9 p.m., and Basamma did not remember the address or phone number. The police drove around the area for over an hour, checking with the people if they knew anything about the missing woman.

As the patrolling driver, Shabbir M., was from Vijayapura and spoke the same dialect, Basamma gained some confidence, shedding her fear and apprehension, they recalled.

After contacting many residents, Satish Kumar managed to reach the apartment in New Mico Layout, Hongasandra where the entire apartment residents and her family were searching for her.

It was a joyous reunion as Mr. Hiremath thanked the police, stating that the family was worried the whole afternoon and searched everywhere for her, sharing details on WhatsApp groups and checking CCTV footage.

Mr. Hiremath promised the police that he would get a GPS-enabled bangle for his mother to ensure her safety.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carry explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (October 17, Friday), the following articles are available:

- Restoring fiscal space for the States **newsth.live/fiscalautonomy**
- The dopamine overdose: how modern lifestyles are rewiring our brains **newsth.live/dopaminedose**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes

Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Towards a better tomorrow through social, educational and economic development schemes

Social and Educational Survey – 2025

September 22 to October 18
(Within the GBA limits till October 24)

When survey officials visit your home, take a few minutes to share your family's details. Your response will help build a Karnataka where every child studies without barriers, youth find opportunities, and every family lives with dignity.

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Missed the door-to-door visit? Call
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Protecting public property and renouncing violence is a constitutional fundamental duty of every Indian citizen

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/ karnataka information

From Page One

State to regulate activities of private entities in public spaces

RSS volunteers taking part in a march during its centenary celebrations in Bengaluru.

On October 4, Mr. Kharge had written to Mr. Siddaramaiah seeking imposition of a ban on all RSS activities in government institutions and on public premises across Karnataka, stating that such actions were contrary to India's unity and the spirit of the Constitution.

Seeking strong government intervention, Mr. Kharge said, "In the interest of the well-being of the country's children, youth, the public, and society as a whole, I earnestly request that a ban be imposed on all types of activities conducted by the RSS, whether under the name of shakha, sanghik, or baithak on the premises of government properties."

Priyank seeks action against govt. officials with links to RSS

Minister points out that the Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 2021 bans government officials from being a member of or having any link with any political party or organisations that take part in politics

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

IT-BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge has written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking an official circular warning government officials of disciplinary action if they associate themselves with the activities of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and other organisations, in violation of existing rules.

The Minister had earlier sought a ban on RSS activities on government premises, leading to strong opposition from the BJP.

Following this, on Thursday, the Cabinet decided to issue an order for regulating activities of private and non-government organisations on public properties, including government and government-aided schools and colleges, grounds, government-regulated temples etc. In a letter dated October 13, Mr. Priyank Kharge, who is the son of AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, has appealed to the Chief Minister to direct the authorities concerned to issue an official circular, strictly banning government officials from associating themselves with any activity of the RSS.

IT-BT and RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge had earlier written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking a ban on RSS activities on government premises. FILE PHOTO

The Minister pointed out that the Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 2021 had banned government officials from being a member of or having any link with any political party or organisations that take part in politics. Government officials are barred from taking part in any political campaign, funding them, or extending any assistance to such activities, he stated.

He said that despite such clear instructions, it had been noticed, of late, that some government officers and staff were taking part in the programmes and activities being taken up by the RSS and other organisations.

In his earlier letter to the Chief Minister seeking a ban on RSS activities in the premises of government properties, Mr. Priyank Kharge had accused the right-wing organisation of trying to fill the minds of gullible youngsters with ideas that were opposed to the spirit of the Constitution and integrity of the nation. He had further alleged that the Sangh's "aggressive" action of wielding lathis in public without obtaining permission from the police was adversely impacting innocent young minds.

The Minister's demand had drawn criticism from the BJP and right-wing groups.

Man from Maharashtra arrested for threat call

Dhanappa Narone

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sadashivanagar police in Bengaluru have tracked down a sales executive from Maharashtra for allegedly making threats and abusive calls to IT-BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge for demanding a ban on the activities of the RSS.

Based on a complaint, a police team tracked down the accused, Dhanappa Narone, 40, who works for an FMCG company, to his hometown – Solapur – through his call record details.

The police brought him to Bengaluru and have taken him into custody to ascertain the reason for making the calls, and how he got the contact number of Mr. Kharge. The police are also examining the possibility of the involvement of others in the case.

Mr. Kharge had shared a video on social media where the accused called him, hurled abuses and threats on his demand for a ban on activities of the RSS. Supporters of Mr. Kharge protested in NK districts demanding action against those threatening the Minister.

Govt. targeting RSS to divert public attention from its failures: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Responding strongly to the Cabinet's decision to "target RSS activities" by regulating the programmes being organised by private organisations in public places, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra on Thursday alleged that the Congress government was doing it only to divert public attention from its failures.

In a social media post, Mr. Vijayendra alleged that the government was "unnecessarily targeting RSS" and repeatedly attacking it only to cover up its own failures.

'Will only grow'

He asserted that the RSS network would only grow if the government subjects it to more regulation.

B.Y. Vijayendra

R. Ashok

Alleging that efforts are continually being made often to stop the growth of the RSS in the post-Independent era, he said the RSS had been "growing by leaps and bounds as it had the blessings of crores of people in the country due to its commitment to the task of nation building."

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok took potshots at IT/BT and RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge whose letter to the Chief Minister seeking a ban on RSS activities on government premises paved the way for Thursday's Cabinet decision.

'Overtaking Dy. CM'

"The manner in which Mr. Priyank Kharge has been repeatedly attacking the RSS has made everyone wonder if he is dreaming of overtaking Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in the chief ministerial race in the November revolution when the Congress is expected to see leadership change in Karnataka," he said.

He alleged that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had evolved a strategy to project Mr. Priyank Kharge as the right candidate to succeed him by using the Minister's anti-RSS remarks at a time when Mr. Shivakumar had embarrassed his party high command by singing Sangh anthem in the Assembly and by attending a programme of Esha Foundation along with Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Farmers of rain-fed areas to get input subsidy of ₹17,000 per ha

CROP LOSS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As farmers incurred crop loss on 12.82 lakh hectares on account of excess rainfall during the south-west monsoon in the State, the Karnataka Cabinet has fixed the input subsidy to farmers of rain-fed area crops at ₹17,000 per hectare, ₹25,500 per hectare for crops in irrigated land, and ₹31,000 per hectare for perennial crops.

The input subsidy would be given for a maximum of up to two hectares. The input subsidy fixed by the government was higher than the amount fixed under NDRF norms.

Farmers incurred crop loss on 12.82 lakh hectares on account of excess rainfall during the south-west monsoon. FILE PHOTO

A sum of ₹1,090 crore would be additional burden to the government, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said after a Cabinet meeting.

He said the Cabinet cancelled the necessity of securing occupancy certificates (OC) by owners of residential houses constructed on 1,200 sqft in municipalities. However, the owners must construct houses as per the plan approved by the authorities.

Cricket stadium

It has cleared a ₹2,350 crore for construction of a cricket stadium at Suryanagara of Anekal taluk of Bengaluru Rural district. However, the final clearance would be given after obtaining detailed project report, he said. The stadium would be developed on 75 acres.

A sum of ₹54.92 crore was approved for purchase of necessary equipment for commencement of a super-speciality 100-bed hospital in Vijayapura. It also approved ₹100 crore each for developing NIMHANS-like hospitals in Kalaburagi and Mysuru medical colleges.

The Cabinet approved ₹650 crore for treating sewage in Vrishabhavati River Valley and treated water would be used for filling tanks in Bengaluru Urban and Rural and Chickballapur districts.

The Cabinet decided to cancel the necessity of passing the Kannada language test by probationary officers after the recruitment. Since candidates have to pass a 150-mark Kannada language test during the recruitment, it was decided to scrap the test after the recruitment.

MoU with IRRI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The University of Agricultural Sciences-Mandya has entered into an MoU with International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) of the Philippines to help take up research for developing improved paddy varieties.

The MoU was signed by Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy, who is heading a delegation of scientists and officials that is currently in the Philippines to study its prowess in paddy cultivation and cutting edge research in developing high yielding varieties of paddy.

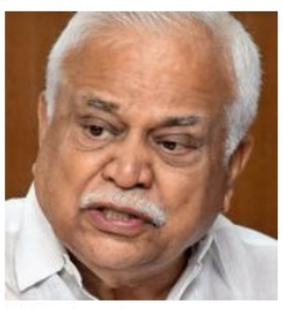
Commission recommends closure of seven boards and corporations, merger of nine others

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid the ongoing process of political appointments to various boards and corporations, the Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2 (KARC-2) has recommended closure of seven bodies and merger of nine others with those with overlapping functions.

In its ninth report submitted to the government on Thursday, the KARC-2 led by veteran MLA R.V. Deshpande examined financial sustainability, relevance, staffing pattern, and the functioning of management committees before arriving at such a recommendation.

The boards and corporations whose closure has been recommended are: Karnataka State Social Welfare Board, Karnataka State Temperance Board, Karnataka Cooperative Poultry Federation, Karnataka Pulpwood Limited, Karnataka State Agro-Corn Products Limited, Mysore Lamp Works Limited, and Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Limited.



R.V. Deshpande

The commission that reviewed the functioning of 82 boards and corporations has recommended merging of nine such bodies with similar entities. These include Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Ltd., Bengaluru Suburban Railway Company Ltd. (BRIDE), Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation Ltd., Ahara Karnataka Ltd., and Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Ltd.

The State government constituted KARC-2 in January 2021 to recommend comprehensive measures for enhancing transparency, efficiency, and accountability in public administration. The commission's mandate includes restructuring administrative systems, simplifying citizen-centric service delivery, and strengthening institutional governance across departments.

The ninth report covers new and emerging issues not addressed in earlier reports and presents 449 new recommendations.

Contradictions between State and Central laws

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2 (KARC-2) has observed that various State legislations that deal with land acquisition contain several contradictions when compared with the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013.

Objections raised

Agri-economists have earlier raised objection to Karnataka not enforcing the RFCTLARR Act, which is now endorsed by the ccommission.

In its report submitted to the government on Thursday, the commission led by MLA R.V. Deshpande has recommended that to ensure uniformity, transparency, and fairness in land acquisition, contradictory provisions in State legislations should be reviewed and removed. Also corresponding provisions of the RFCTLARR Act should be inserted in their place, the commission has said.

The RFCTLARR Act may be directly adopted in full to avoid duplication and conflict, the commission said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **SRI. BYRAPPA** s/o MUNIYAPPA aged 55 years R/at Residing at No. 26, Jattipalya Village, Harohalli Hobli, Kaggalahalli post Kanakapura Taluk, Bengaluru South District 562112 intend to purchase the Schedule Property from **SRI. PARTHASARATHI S., s/o** LATE. SUBBANARAYANA SETTY. The seller became owner of the Schedule Property by virtue of getting BDA Khata in his name And the Khata No. BDA/RO(S)/1255/BSK-VI/II/03 dated: 15/03/2004 reflecting the same. Any person/s, legal heirs, Trusts, Societies, Institutions, Academic Groups, Associations, Firms Companies, Corporate or any other claiming to have any charge lien, interest encumbrances, lease claim or demand of anyway of sale, transfer, memorandum of understanding, assignment, possession, succession, rights whatsoever the Schedule Property, may lodge their claim with the undersigned with original documentary proof within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our clients will treat that there are no objections or claims in respect of the Schedule Property. No claims will be entertained thereafter and our clients will proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Vacant Site Bearing No. 1255, and having Property ID (PID) No. 3320020943, BDA Khata No.BDA/RO(S)/1255/BSK-VI/II/03, layout formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore, situated at Banashankari 6th Stage, 2nd Block Layout, Bangalore and measuring: East to West: 18.00 (Eighteen) Meters and North to South: 12.00 (Twelve) Meters. Totally measuring 216.00 (Two Hundred and Sixteen) Square Meters and bounded on the:-

East by : Private Property
West by : Road
North by : Site No: 1254
South by: Site No: 1256

Smt: MYTHRI I.E., Advocate
No.14, 4th Floor, No.409, HM Geneva House, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru 560052.
Contact No: 8880004403 /9900577088

Government of Telangana
Department of Mines and Geology
Email: dmg-eauction-mines@telangana.gov.in

Ref:1576586/MI/2022 Date: October 17, 2025

Notice Inviting Tender
'Invitation of bids for grant of Quarry Lease for Minor Mineral blocks'

The Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana, invites bids for the grant of quarry leases for 19 minor mineral blocks through electronic auction under Rule 12 of the Telangana Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1966, as notified pursuant to Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The minerals proposed for grant include **Building Stone, Colour Granite, Gravel, Rough Stone and Road Metal.**

Interested bidders may obtain the Tender Document containing eligibility criteria, auction schedule, reserve price, bidding parameters, terms and conditions, and other details from the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited at:
(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mmb/tgmmb/index.jsp).

Mineral Block Summaries and the model tender document are available free of cost on the portal. Block-specific Tender Documents are available for purchase on the portal. Interested bidders may register themselves on the website to obtain login credentials required for submission of bids and participation in the e-auction process.

The date for commencement of Sale of Tender Document is **Thursday, October 23, 2025.** The last date for purchase of the Tender Document is **Thursday, 13 November, 2025, on or before 17:00 hours (IST)** and the last date for submission of bids is **Tuesday, 18 November, 2025, on or before 17:00 hours (IST).**

Sd/-Director of Mines & Geology (FAC)

DIPR R.O.No.726-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:16.10.2025

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Hemavathy Canal Division, Yediyur - 572 142.
Phone : 73385 90199, E-mail : eeyediyur1@gmail.com

Short Term Tender Notification No. : 13/2025-26 Date : 14-10-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through KPPP Only)

On the behalf of the **Managing Director, CNNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, CNNL, Hemavathi Canal. Division, Yediyur** the undersigned invites tender on item rate basis from contractors for 01 Work.

The amount put to tender is 79.20 Lakhs.

The Time Fixed for Completion the Work is 03 Months. EMD Amount and Processing Fees should be Paid through KPP Portal. The Last Date for Tender Queries / Clarifications is 21-10-2025 upto 5.00 p.m., The Last Date for Receival of Tenders along with EMD'S is 27-10-2025 upto 4.00 p.m. Technical Bid will be Opened on 28-10-2025 at 4.00 p.m.

For more information contact **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Hemavathy Canal Division, C.N.N.L., Yediyur.

DIPR/Tumakuru/40/Manipal/2025-26

Joint action: Narendra Modi and N. Chandrababu Naidu during a foundation stone laying ceremony in Kurnool. PTI

India's development targets can be met through A.P., says PM

Hareesh P.
KURNOOL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asserted that the 'Viksit Bharat' dream will be realised through a 'Viksit Andhra Pradesh'.

The Google's facility proposed in Visakhapatnam will be a major hub for AI and global connectivity, the Prime Minister said, while affirming that Kurnool would be a national hub for the drone sector.

After offering prayers at Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna Swamy temple at Srisailam on Thursday, Mr. Modi laid foundation stones and inaugurated several development projects worth ₹13,430 crore.

Addressing a public meeting at Nannur on the outskirts of Kurnool, he said, "With Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan, Andhra Pradesh has a visionary leadership and the State has the full support from the Centre."

Mr. Modi said that Andhra Pradesh had witnessed a rapid development under the NDA rule at the Centre and in the State in the past 16 months. "New Delhi and Amaravati are working together to achieve accelerated growth of the State. By 2047, India will surely be a developed nation," Mr. Modi said.

"The world now sees India as the new manufacturing centre of the 21st century, with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat being the foundation of this success," he said.

He announced the launch of an Advanced Night Vision factory at Nimmaluru, marking another step towards self-reliance in the defence sector. "This facility will enhance India's capability to produce night vision equipment, missile sensors, and drone guard systems, and will elevate the country's defence exports to new heights," he said.

Andhra Pradesh Governor Syed Abdul Nazeer, Mr. Naidu and Mr. Kalyan were also present.

Execution of Nimisha Priya in Yemen stalled, Centre tells SC

Nothing adverse is happening in the case and a new mediator had stepped in to facilitate talks, court told; Kerala nurse's execution had been postponed following diplomatic interventions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday was informed by the Centre that "nothing adverse was happening" in the case of Indian nurse Nimisha Priya, who faces execution in Yemen for murder, and that a new mediator had stepped in to facilitate discussions.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta was hearing a petition filed by the International Action Council, which has been extending legal assistance to Ms. Priya in its efforts to save her life. The execution, earlier slated for July 16, was postponed following diplomatic interventions by the Indian government and efforts by Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar, a prominent Kerala-based Islamic scholar.

Nimisha Priya was sentenced to death by a Yemeni trial court in 2020 for a local man's murder.

When the Bench asked Attorney-General R. Venkataramani, appearing for the Union government, about the current status of the execution, he responded that "nothing adverse" was taking place and that a new mediator had entered the picture." "The only good thing is that nothing adverse is happening, it has been stalled," Mr. Venkataramani said.

Adjournment sought

Accordingly, the counsel for the Council requested the Bench to adjourn the matter with liberty to seek an urgent hearing if new developments arose. "The matter pending here also makes a difference," the counsel submitted, urging that the petition not be disposed of.

The Bench agreed and listed the matter for January 2026.

Ms. Priya, who hails from Palakkad in Kerala, was sentenced to death by a Yemeni trial court in 2020 for the murder of a local man who was her business partner. Her appeals were subsequently dismissed by the appellate courts in Yemen."Her only child, a 12-year-old girl, is living in a convent. Her mother is a domestic helper in Ernakulam and her husband is an autorickshaw driver," the petition stated.

Earlier, the counsel for the petitioner had told the top court that the payment of blood money to the victim's family, permissible under Sharia law, could be explored as an avenue for relief. He had submitted that the victim's family might pardon Ms. Priya if blood money were paid.

B.R. Patil unhappy with district planning committees not holding regular meetings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission has expressed dissatisfaction over district in-charge Ministers, who are also chairpersons of district planning committees, not holding regular meetings of district planning committees despite being instructed by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to do so. Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on Thursday, State Policy and Planning Commission Deputy Chairperson B.R. Patil pointed out that district in-charge Ministers had been appointed as chairpersons of the district planning committees.

Soon after appointments, the Chief Minister had instructed them to hold regular meetings of these committees and to prepare draft annual plan. But no such meetings had been held and the commission had not received any minutes of such meetings so far, Mr. Patil said.

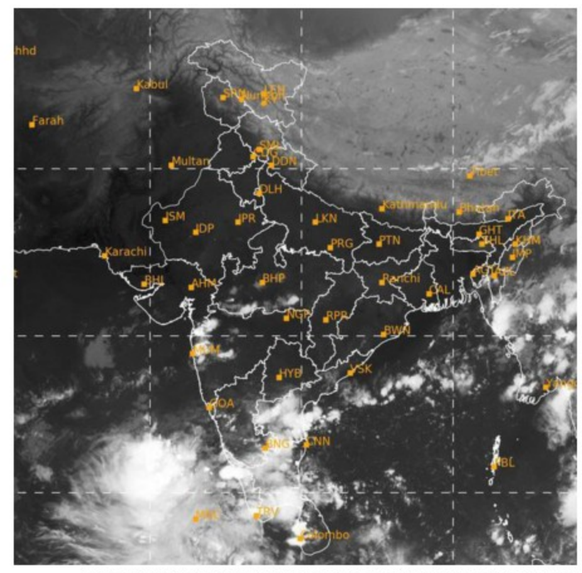
He said the meetings of the district planning committees would play a crucial role in strengthening the decentralised system of administration and preparing annual draft plans. But none of the district and taluk committees had held such meetings, he observed.

Letter to CM

In this context, the commission had written to the Chief Minister, requesting him to direct the Chief Secretary to ask all the taluk and district planning committees to hold their meetings in this month and submit draft plans within November, he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andhra Pradesh, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Lakshadweep. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.4	25.7	Kozhikode	—	34.5	25.4
Ahmedabad	—	36.2	21.7	Kurnool	—	33.2	23.6
Aizawl	—	31.3	19.9	Lucknow	—	32.7	19.8
Allahabad	—	34.1	19.1	Madurai	3	29.0	25.6
Bengaluru	1	28.9	20.8	Mangaluru	0.9	33.5	24.2
Bhopal	—	32.0	20.8	Mumbai	—	35.9	25.3
Bhubaneswar	—	33.4	23.1	Mysuru	—	30.2	20.2
Chandigarh	—	33.1	18.9	New Delhi	—	32.9	18.1
Chennai	—	33.1	25.6	Patna	—	32.2	22.4
Coimbatore	9	30.0	22.5	Port Blair	0.1	31.5	25.7
Dehradun	—	32.0	17.8	Puducherry	2	31.2	24.1
Gangtok	—	24.0	14.0	Pune	—	34.2	23.1
Goa	—	34.5	25.0	Raipur	—	32.2	23.3
Guwahati	—	34.2	24.6	Ranchi	—	28.3	17.4
Hubballi	—	31.0	22.0	Shillong	—	28.0	15.0
Hyderabad	—	31.1	21.4	Shimla	—	25.0	12.8
Imphal	—	30.2	21.1	Srinagar	—	26.3	9.2
Jaipur	—	32.4	19.6	Thiruvananthapuram	15	29.8	24.6
Kochi	46	28.6	24.0	Tiruchi	7	28.7	24.6
Kohima	—	26.0	14.0	Vijayawada	—	32.5	24.4
Kolkata	—	33.0	24.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.9	26.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.26	..87	46	... 162	...138	
Bengaluru	...8	9	63	 70	98	
Chennai	.15	..13	92	 67	95	
Delhi	.24	..99	50	... 286	...352	
Hyderabad	.13	..18	12	 53	...104	
Kolkata	...7	..63	28	 80	...225	
Lucknow	.13	..38	41	... 144	...147	
Mumbai	..—	..74	49	... 107	...145	
Pune	..—	..21	21	... 111	...125	
Visakhapatnam	.13	..23	18	... 132	...117	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 307 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Protests erupt in Kerala over death of RSS volunteer

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

The controversy surrounding the alleged suicide of a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) worker from Elikkulam, appears to be escalating into a major political issue in Kottayam district of Kerala ahead of the upcoming local body polls.

A day after a new video surfaced on the deceased's social media page reiterating his allegations of sexual abuse at RSS camps, Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI) and Youth Congress workers on Thursday took out protest marches at Ponkunnam demanding the arrest of those named in the video.

DYFI activists vandalised a shop near Kanjirappally run by a man who has been accused in connection with the death. The police rushed to the spot and removed the protesters.

District Congress Committee president Nattakom Suresh inaugurated a protest march by the Youth Congress to the office of the Deputy Superintendent of Police in Kanjirappally. Mr. Suresh accused the police of being reluctant to take action. Youth Congress workers later staged a sit-in on the road, which was dispersed by the police. The row intensified after a video recorded by the deceased was released on his Instagram account on Wednesday. The 26-year-old alleged that he had been subjected to sexual abuse during RSS camps.

The RSS has also called for an impartial probe.

For those in distress, counselling is available at Tele MANAS 14416.

Rare phenomenon

Cause for concern: Water has receded to a surprising level on the Kozhikode beach on Thursday, prompting the beachgoers to maintain caution. This comes amid fishermen raising concern over abnormal weather conditions in Kerala. K. RAGESH

FSSAI says only WHO-approved products can be labelled as ORS

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

FSSAI said that the use of 'ORS' in any food product's name violates the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006

A Hyderabad-based paediatrician's long-standing fight against sugar-rich beverages falsely marketed as oral rehydration solutions (ORS) has resulted in a major regulatory change. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued an order stating that no food brand may use the term 'Oral Rehydration Salts' or 'ORS' on its products unless the formulation adheres strictly to the standards recommended by the World Health Organisation.

The directive, issued on Tuesday, mandates the immediate withdrawal of all previous permissions granted to food business operators for using 'ORS' in conjunction with their brand names. Specifically, it rescinds two earlier orders, dated July 14, 2022, and February 2, 2024, that had allowed the use of 'ORS' as part of a trademark with a prefix or suffix, provided the label included a disclaimer stating, "The product is not an ORS formula as recommended by WHO."

On Wednesday, FSSAI issued a detailed clarification reaffirming that the use of 'ORS' in any food product's name, whether fruit-based, non-carbonated, or ready-to-drink, violates the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and related regulations. The regulator stated that such labelling 'misleads consumers by way of false, deceptive, ambiguous, and erroneous names or label declarations,' and therefore contravenes multiple provisions under the Act.

This regulatory intervention stems from a persistent legal campaign by paediatrician Sivaranjani Santosh, who began questioning deceptive marketing practices nearly a decade ago.

'Studying space weather must be a major activity for humans'

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The PUNCH Space Mission, launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) earlier this year to observe the 'young solar wind,' is "making the invisible, visible," Craig Edward DeForest, Principal Investigator of the mission, has said.

"We are making the solar wind visible," Dr. DeForest said on Wednesday evening, while giving a public lecture on 'Imaging Almost Nothing At All...With the PUNCH Space Mission of NASA' in Thiruvananthapuram. The lecture was jointly organised by the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), the Christ University Nodal Office and the local chapter of the Breakthrough Science Society.

Craig Edward DeForest

PUNCH, short for 'Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere,' is attempting to understand the corona (the Sun's outermost atmosphere) and the solar wind as "a single system," according to Dr. DeForest, who is also Director of the Department of Solar and Heliospheric Physics, Southwest Research Institute, Boulder, Colorado.

Studying and forecasting space weather should be important activities for humans, Dr. DeForest said. He points out that they provide a way to "protect ourselves." Solar events such as the solar wind and coronal mass ejections can have impacts across the solar system.

Solar maximum

The sun is now in a time of solar maximum, a period of high activity. In five years or so it will be much quieter, he said. "We cannot predict when an ejection will happen, but we can predict that ejections will happen over an interval of time," he said.

TDB to permit motorcade of President to travel to Sabarimala Sannidhanam

K. S. Sudhi
KOCHI

Deviating from the centuries-old practice of letting pilgrims reach the Sannidhanam from Pampa either by foot or in dollies (palanquins), the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) will let in the motorcade of President Droupadi Murmu to the hill temple for her to offer prayers.

A four-wheel drive Ghurka emergency vehicle, along with a motorcade of six vehicles, will take Ms. Murmu and her group through the 4.5-km Swamy Ayyappan Road and a traditional trekking route. The President and five members of her group will be escorted by the Special Protection Group during her pilgrimage.

Tough trek: As per centuries-old practice, pilgrims reach Sannidhanam either on foot or using dollies. LEJU KAMAL

The first President of India to visit the temple was V. V. Giri.

"Giri was taken to the hill shrine in the early 1970s in a dolly. This time, the President will reach the hill shrine in a special vehicle. Besides the special vehicles, an ambulance will also be there in the motorcade. The administrative decision to let the vehicles in was taken by the TDB. The decision was also conveyed to the Kerala High Court. Permitting the vehicles from Pampa to Sannidhanam does not violate any temple customs," said TDB president P. S. Prasanth.

Incidentally, three ambulances owned by the TDB and the Forest department and tractors are the only motor vehicles that are permitted to operate along the narrow road stretch.

"The President and her team members will strictly follow the temple customs and rituals. They will carry the Irumudi, which contains coconut, rice, and puffed rice," said Mr. Prasanth.

Incidentally, Sabarimala had been witnessing protests for protecting the temple customs and rituals for the past few years.

None too soon

The timely arrival of the northeast monsoon bodes well for farmers

The timely arrival of the northeast monsoon, which benefits many parts of the southern peninsula, especially Tamil Nadu and the coastal and Rayalaseema regions of Andhra Pradesh, has brought relief to the region, given its importance from an agricultural as well as a disaster management perspective. Against its normal arrival date of October 20 (plus or minus seven days), the monsoon set in on October 16. The India Meteorological Department has forecast "above normal" rain with more than 112% of the long period average. Going by the data for 1971-2020, the season's share in the annual rainfall is 48% for Tamil Nadu and over 30% for Andhra Pradesh. The monsoon also witnesses at least three cyclonic disturbances over the Bay of Bengal. There is also the added factor of cloudbursts, which are more frequent now, according to an Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology study. Consequently, coastal States face urban flooding with residents of Chennai living in dread of it, going by their experiences of the past 10 years.

Keeping this in mind, the Tamil Nadu government is putting in place a real-time flood forecasting system for Chennai to calibrate excess water discharge from the reservoirs in and around the city. In addition, the authorities, as in other southern States, are preparing the official machinery to handle any situation. Over the years, the loss of lives has dropped after effective coordination among the agencies concerned. However, there are still many areas in need of more focused attention. The state of stormwater drains and water courses through cities leaves much to be desired, but State governments alone cannot be held responsible for this. That sections of people still use waterbodies as dumping yards only aggravates the problem, highlighting the near absence of community ownership among urban residents. In the farm sector, the shortage of fertilizers, particularly urea, has been bothering agriculturists. About a month ago, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, in a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, flagged the issue. Other States which are dependent on rainfall during the southwest monsoon, had also complained of urea shortage. The Union Ministry of Agriculture is reported to have enhanced urea demand for October – it was 36.65 lakh tonnes a year ago. Looking at the macro picture of the monsoon, the message is that as rainfall is expected to be more intense, the authorities at every level have to be vigilant and act in unison so that any adverse impact is reduced, if not eliminated.

New dawn

Peace in West Asia hinges on resolution of the Palestine issue

While addressing the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, U.S. President Donald Trump declared that the ceasefire agreement between Hamas and Israel, which he had helped broker, marked "the historical dawn of the new Middle East". In Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, Arab and Muslim leaders joined him in praising his 20-point peace plan. While all sides hailed Mr. Trump's role as a peacemaker, the declaration of a new era of peace in West Asia, claiming to end a "3,000-year-old" conflict, glosses over deep and enduring complexities. The Gaza ceasefire, which appears to be holding with Hamas and Israel releasing hostages and prisoners, is undoubtedly a relief for Palestinians and hostage families. But the greater challenge lies in implementing the next phase, let alone building "a new Middle East". A notable outcome of the Sharm el-Sheikh summit was the joint declaration by Egypt, Qatar, Türkiye and the U.S., also calling for the safeguarding of the fundamental rights of Palestinians and Israelis. It recognised the region's historical and spiritual significance to multiple faiths, and committed signatories to dismantling extremism and radicalisation. But the declaration was silent on more contentious issues – Hamas's disarmament, one of the central objectives of the Trump plan, or of Israel's continuing military presence in Gaza.

Mr. Trump later claimed that Hamas had promised to disarm, warning that "If they don't disarm, we will disarm them..., perhaps violently". But Israel, despite its two years in Gaza, has still failed to disarm Hamas. How then does Mr. Trump plan to disarm them? He also claimed that the Iran threat had been neutralised, and urged more Arab countries to join the Abraham Accords. While Iran's regional influence has been dented, it remains an influential regional player. Hezbollah, despite military setbacks, continues to be a powerful socio-political actor within Lebanon, and U.S.-led attempts to disarm the Shia group have gone nowhere. In Yemen, despite relentless Saudi, American, British and Israeli bombing campaigns, the Houthis, another Iranian ally, still control key population centres, including Sana'a. Moreover, Arab countries now have growing security concerns about Israel, particularly after its bombing of Qatar in September. Against this background, Mr. Trump's sweeping claims of regional peace ring hollow. What he should prioritise instead is ensuring that the Gaza ceasefire holds. The next step should be forcing Hamas to give up power in the enclave while pressing Israel to withdraw. Once peace is consolidated and reconstruction begins, the U.S., with its Arab and European allies, should work towards a practical road map for the establishment of a Palestinian state. Unless the Palestine question is resolved and the Israeli occupation ends, grand declarations about remaking the region will remain little more than empty rhetoric.

A reading of a revisionism in constitutional history

A quiet revisionism in constitutional history is being seeded. Some commentators now argue that Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, the Constitutional Adviser to the Constituent Assembly, was the real architect of India's Constitution, while Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, merely polished an already finished product. This argument may sound academic, but it is not. It represents an attempt to diminish Dalit agency in India's founding story and to erase the moral force that B.R. Ambedkar brought to the making of the Republic.

Sanjay Hegde

is a Senior Advocate designated by the Supreme Court of India

Complementary, not competing

Both men were indispensable to the Constitution's creation, but their roles were entirely different. Sir B.N. Rau, a distinguished civil servant and jurist, was appointed Constitutional Adviser in July 1946. His assignment was technical and preparatory. Rau had in British India, helped in the drafting of the Government of India Act of 1935. Eleven years later, he had to prepare a working draft of the Constitution based on reports of the Constituent Assembly's committees and his study of other constitutions. He examined the American, Canadian, Irish, Australian and Weimar models, and consulted jurists such as Felix Frankfurter and Harold Laski. In October 1947, he submitted his draft with 243 articles and 13 schedules. Rau's document provided the Assembly with a starting point. He had no seat in the Constituent Assembly and no political mandate. His authority was scholarly, not representative.

Ambedkar's task was of a different order. As Chairman of the Drafting Committee, he had to turn a legal draft into a political covenant. He carried the Constitution through the turbulence of Partition, the murder of the Mahatma and had to defend its provisions, clause by clause, in the Assembly. His responsibility was not only to refine the text but also to build consensus among sharply divided interests. Rau built the framework. Ambedkar made it a living instrument of justice.

Ambedkar never denied Rau's contribution. In his concluding address to the Constituent Assembly on November 25, 1949, he said: "The credit that is given to me does not really belong to me. It belongs partly to Sir B.N. Rau, the Constitutional Adviser to the Constituent Assembly who prepared a rough draft of the Constitution for the consideration of the Drafting Committee."

He also said, "A part of the credit must go to the members of the Drafting Committee who, as I have said, have sat for 141 days... Much greater share of the credit must go to Mr. S.N. Mukherjee, the Chief Draftsman of the Constitution. His ability to put the most intricate proposals in the simplest and clearest legal form can rarely be equalled, nor his capacity for hard work."

Thus the words which are often used to claim that Rau, not Ambedkar, was the real author of the Constitution in fact, show the opposite. Ambedkar called Rau's work a "rough draft", not a finished text. The Drafting Committee and the Assembly turned that raw material into the document that finally came into force in January 1950. Nor does any evidence exist to show that Rau ever claimed to be the Constitution's author. His correspondence at that time with Ambedkar and Jawaharlal Nehru conveys respect and cooperation. The current effort to crown him as "Father of the Constitution" distorts both the record and Rau's own modesty.

The campaign to elevate B.N. Rau and sideline B.R. Ambedkar as the real architect of India's Constitution is misplaced

The political motive

The campaign to elevate Rau and sideline Ambedkar is not driven by scholarship alone. It reflects a discomfort with the idea that a Dalit thinker could stand at the centre of the Republic's founding moment. Recasting Rau as the Constitution's principal author is an attempt to reclaim authorship for caste privilege. It tames Ambedkar's radical legacy and turns a social revolution into a bureaucratic exercise. The Constitution is not a sterile legal document. It is, first and foremost, a social manifesto which promises the dignity of the individual. It was born out of conflict, hope and redemption. It represented the arrival of the oppressed at the table of power. To detach Ambedkar from it is to rob it of its soul.

Ambedkar's presence in the Constituent Assembly was itself the result of a decisive act of political wisdom. He had originally been elected from Bengal, but after Partition, that seat went to Pakistan. Many within the Congress were hesitant to bring him back because of past disagreements. It was Mahatma Gandhi's intervention that settled the question.

Though Gandhi and Ambedkar had clashed over separate electorates, Gandhi insisted that Ambedkar must be part of the Assembly. He told Congress leaders that no Constitution could claim legitimacy if the Scheduled Castes were excluded from its making.

As a result, Ambedkar was re-elected from the Bombay Presidency. Gandhi's insistence was an act of foresight. In 1947, when the nation was fractured by religion, an alienated Dalit leadership could have deepened the divide. By ensuring Ambedkar's inclusion, Gandhi prevented a crisis that could have weakened the new Republic at its birth. Ambedkar's subsequent leadership proved that inclusion right. He turned the making of the Constitution into a moral enterprise that bound the country together.

Rau's draft provided the order and structure. Ambedkar gave the Constitution its moral depth. The provisions on Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles, and affirmative action bear his imprint. His speeches in the Assembly made the Constitution a living moral philosophy.

Ambedkar warned that political equality would fail without social and economic equality. He said, "How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? If we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in peril. We must remove this contradiction at the earliest possible moment or else those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of political democracy which this Assembly has so laboriously built up." That warning still remains the most powerful moral statement in India's constitutional history.

The peril of forgetting

Every Republic must guard its memory. The attempt to raise Rau above Ambedkar is part of a larger effort to drain the Constitution of its radical spirit. It presents the founding as a matter of technical competence rather than social transformation. To honour Ambedkar is not to diminish Rau. Both served the Republic faithfully. But the Constitution is more than a legal framework. It is a statement of national purpose. It needed a scholar's precision, but it also needed a reformer's conviction. Ambedkar was that reformer.

When the Constitution was adopted, leaders across the political spectrum, including Nehru, Patel and Prasad, publicly acknowledged Ambedkar's central role. None suggested that Rau was the Constitution's principal author. They understood the difference between drafting a text and shaping a nation's conscience.

Rau deserves admiration as a brilliant adviser. Ambedkar deserves reverence as the Constitution's moral architect. The Constitution was not written in the calm of colonial offices but in the shadow of Partition, the Mahatma's assassination and caste oppression. To place Ambedkar at its centre was not symbolic generosity but a statement that India's new order would belong equally to those once excluded.

Ambedkar never claimed sole authorship. Yet, his leadership of the Drafting Committee, his defence of every clause, and his vision of liberty, equality and fraternity have defined the Indian Republic. To diminish his role is to betray the Republic's founding promise. Rau built the structure; Ambedkar filled it with justice. Sir B.N. Rau deserves gratitude as the constitutional engineer. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar remains the architect and moral founder of modern India.

To deny that truth is to deny the Republic.

Ensure safeguards for India's carbon market

The growth-driven model of development, rooted in the Industrial Revolution, has already pushed planetary boundaries beyond safe limits. Some call for "degrowth" to address environmental damage, but this is neither just nor feasible for developing countries that are still grappling with poverty and hunger. A more equitable path lies in decoupling growth from environmental harm. In other words, countries must find ways to reduce poverty and expand their economies without repeating the high-pollution, high-emission model of the past.

This can be done by relying on cleaner technologies, renewable energy and sustainable farming practices. In India, for instance, the rapid expansion of solar energy and micro-irrigation illustrate how growth and sustainability can go hand in hand.

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On carbon credit

Carbon crediting is one such tool. A carbon credit represents a certified reduction or removal of greenhouse gases, expressed in carbon dioxide (CO_2) -equivalents. These can be generated through mitigation activities such as renewable energy or sequestration efforts such as reforestation, agroforestry and biochar. Firms buy them to offset emissions while transitioning to cleaner processes, ideally rewarding developing countries for adopting low-carbon practices.

Carbon credits are booming, with 175 million-180 million retired annually, primarily from renewable energy and nature-based projects such as REDD+ and afforestation. India is also building its own carbon market through the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS). The scheme will set emission-intensity benchmarks for energy-intensive sectors and include voluntary offsets. A national registry and trading platform will manage transactions, with draft methods for biomass, compressed biogas, and low-emission rice cultivation already released.

Globally, agriculture-based projects lag despite high potential. Of 64 Indian agricultural projects listed under Verra, only four are registered and none has issued credits. CIMMYT's research links this to weak farmer engagement, training and follow-up, especially among smallholders and marginalised caste groups.

As India builds its carbon market, the lessons from global failures show why protecting farmers and communities must come first

Carbon markets and the risk of exploitation

Carbon projects are meant to reward communities at the frontlines of climate action. But without safeguards, they risk replicating extractive power structures, echoing the logic of colonial plantations. Rising carbon prices only heighten this risk. The Northern Kenya Rangelands Carbon Project offers a cautionary tale. Launched in 2012, it spanned 1.9 million hectares and sought to remove 50 million tonnes of CO_2 over 30 years. Though framed as community-led, the project has drawn scrutiny for bypassing consent and weakening local land rights, raising critical questions about who truly controls and benefits from carbon projects. The project introduced rotational grazing and rangeland restoration, but cracks soon appeared.

In 2023, Verra suspended credit issuance after advocacy groups highlighted flaws in soil carbon measurement and a lack of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) from indigenous communities. Petitioners alleged that the conservancies were created without public consultation, on unregistered community land, and enforced through armed rangers. In 2025, a Kenyan court confirmed that key conservancies had bypassed public participation, prompting a second suspension by Verra. Community conservancies, common across Kenya, are locally managed bodies meant to promote sustainability and protect livelihoods through elected governance. In principle, they embody decentralised, community-driven resource management. Critics argue that the project's top-down grazing restrictions and opaque governance structures mirror colonial-era resource control, infringing on pastoralist land rights and underscoring the urgent need for community-led, decolonised carbon initiatives.

Similarly, the Lake Turkana Wind Power project (Kenya) fenced 1,50,000 acres of community rangeland, cutting off herders from grazing routes and water; it raised the question of whether sustainability is advancing at the expense of the vulnerable.

India could face similar risks. Carbon projects in afforestation, reforestation and agriculture often extend into areas with customary land use. Plantations on village commons or forest fringes could disrupt access to grazing, fuelwood and forest produce without community consent. Agricultural projects have already shown signs of bypassing marginalised caste farmers while delivering few benefits. The Kenyan judgment is a timely warning: unless land rights, consent and fair benefit-sharing are secured, India's carbon market risks reproducing extractive models under the guise of climate action.

Why carbon projects are vulnerable

Carbon projects can slip into "modern plantations" when powerful companies dominate and local communities are sidelined. In India, farmers and tribal communities often face information and power asymmetries that enable opaque deals and unfair benefit-sharing. Developers are not required to disclose benefit-sharing arrangements, and practices are often imposed top-down, with little regard for local contexts or consent.

India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, while ambitious, focuses mainly on procedures and compliance, with scant attention to land rights, FPIC, and equitable revenue distribution. These blind spots may expose vulnerable groups to exclusion and exploitation as the market expands.

Overregulation is not the solution, as burdensome legal frameworks could discourage even well-intentioned actors. What India needs is a balanced, lightweight regulatory architecture that guarantees transparency, formalises benefit-sharing, and protects community rights, without creating bureaucratic choke points.

Achieving this will require stakeholder consultation, adaptive regulation and a clear-eyed recognition of risks. Only then can India build trust and integrity in its carbon market while ensuring that climate action does not come at the cost of justice.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A case against firecrackers

In permitting the sale and bursting of green crackers, the Supreme Court appears to have given precedence to public sentiment over public safety.

Green crackers can be harmful too. The worsening of air quality on Deepavali will only mean an aggravation of health problems. There is also no guarantee that certified green crackers alone will be used by revellers. People in a festive mood tend to flout guidelines, and there is no real chance of punishing a mass of people. The wisdom of allowing the widespread bursting of firecrackers, that affects senior citizens, infants, and patients on treatment or recuperating, is indeed questionable.

G. David Milton,
Maruthancode, Tamil Nadu

In my childhood, most of us did not have the luxury to "burn money" on fireworks. With our father who was the sole breadwinner, and a large family of six children, our Deepavali budget for crackers barely touched ₹25-₹40. Delhi was more greener, less crowded and the smoke hardly made an impact.

N. Nagarajan,
Secunderabad

Bengaluru's roads

The debates on the pot-holed roads of Bengaluru never seem to end as the basic question of how these potholes appear and reappear despite repeated repairs costing crores, and why no one is held accountable, is a mystery. Unless heads roll no improvements will be possible. With Bengaluru gaining importance as a world-class technical capital, there has to be action.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Is landlockedness the reason for Bihar's underdevelopment?

PARLEY

R. Nagaraj

Economist and retired professor from the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai

Manindra Nath Thakur

Professor , Centre for Political Studies, JNU, Delhi

It is election season in Bihar. While the Opposition often speaks about the lack of development and industrialisation in the State, in its campaigns, the National Democratic Alliance, which is in power, argues that a change of government will bring back the 'Jungle Raj' of the earlier decade. What makes Bihar one of India's most underdeveloped States? Is landlockedness a reason for its underdevelopment, as some argue? R. Nagaraj and Manindra Nath Thakur discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Saptaparno Ghosh**. Edited excerpts:

It is often argued that Bihar is disadvantaged because it is a landlocked State. Punjab and Telangana are landlocked as well, and they are doing relatively well. So how is being landlocked a constraint for Bihar?

R. Nagaraj: If you look at the success of Telangana, especially Hyderabad, it is mostly because of the tertiary sector; it has nothing to do with geography. If a State has an educated workforce and good infrastructure, being landlocked will not be an issue. Punjab, too, has a developed network of railways and roads, and has FCI (Food Corporation of India) godowns across the country to help with export of crops.

Manindra Nath Thakur: Let us look at Bihar's prominent exports: makhana, litchi, and corn. It has been difficult for Bihar to transport these items from Patna to West Bengal or to any port. These, alongside the vegetables Bihar exports, are perishable. Moreover, significant costs are incurred due to road transport; time and distance are crucial factors in agrarian exports. One way Bihar is attempting to resolve this issue is by launching projects along the Ganga. So, it is not that concerns about being landlocked are not genuine, but they cannot be cited as a major reason for the State's economic backwardness.

Prof. Nagaraj spoke of the tertiary sector; you spoke of agrarian exports. Bihar has been assessed as an agrarian economy. What should be its imperative going forward: industrialisation or agriculture?

MT: In the last 10 years, the Chief Minister has tried to engage with industrialists. However, industrialists have often raised concerns about access to ports, citing the need to spend more on transportation. Having said that, I do think that in this modern capitalist system, no society can think of surviving with just agricultural products. While Bihar should capitalise on its potential in terms of agricultural production and

A women shucks corn in Virpur village in Begusarai, Bihar. R.V. MOORTHY

processing, it must ultimately transition to industry. Without that, there is no future.

RN: Before we think of high-technology and/or manufacturing industries, we should consider where the comparative advantage lies. Four-fifth of Bihar's labour force is in agriculture. But despite Bihar having fertile land and irrigation facilities, agricultural productivity is mostly less than the national average. Why is agriculture not picking up? That is the big question.

In the 1970s or 80s, a committee set up under the agricultural economist, S.R. Sen, was figuring out how to take the Green Revolution to the Indo-Gangetic belt. It came up with a plan for massive State investments in infrastructure and electrification to ensure that States have abundant water for the cultivation of wheat and rice. Surprisingly, the Green Revolution spread to the Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh rather than the Indo-Gangetic belt. We must understand what went wrong.

I think it will be both in Bihar's interest and the national interest to get basic wheat, rice, and sugarcane cultivation going. This way, western India will be burdened less; it can conserve more water and move to value-added crops.

MT: On the agrarian front, I don't think Bihar should repeat the mistake that Punjab made during the Green Revolution, which produced a water crisis. Although Bihar has abundant water, it may face the same consequences as Punjab if water is overused. Moreover, increasing agricultural production is linked with the heavy use of fertilizers and pesticides, creating a health crisis. Therefore, I don't support the shifting of agriculture to eastern India. Agriculture is not profitable anywhere in the world unless it is heavily supported by the State.

RN: Madhya Pradesh was also seen as a backward State. It does not have the same water

> It is not that concerns about being landlocked are not genuine, but they cannot be cited as a major reason for the State's economic backwardness.
> MANINDRA NATH THAKUR

resources as Bihar, yet the Green Revolution expanded there. Prosperity in the Malwa region is amazing. Therefore, I am sceptical about the idea that agriculture has no potential.

So what do you think are the factors that contributed to Bihar's underdevelopment?

MT: Apart from what I have said, there are also notions that the Centre is not interested in Bihar's growth. The State, I think, is frozen in its transition from feudalism to capitalism. One of the reasons for this is the internal colonisation of the State. Earlier, Bihar supplied raw materials, but due to policies such as freight equalisation, it suffered significantly, and industries didn't develop locally, despite having the advantage of raw material availability. Bihar ultimately lost revenues and its natural advantage. Now, with a supply of labour from Bihar, nobody is interested in developing the State.

RN: A commodity where freight equalisation was done and which benefited eastern India was cement. Steel did not accrue the same advantage. Cement has heavy transport costs compared to steel so the freight equalisation policy for it helped eastern India.

Furthermore, why Biharis are leaving Bihar has no element of capitalist conspiracy. In fact, when investments in agriculture were made in Bihar, migration to Punjab declined. It is clear that if people have more options at home, they will not move out.

Literature often suggests that Bihar has a 'socialist hangover', and that entrepreneurship does not draw confidence.

RN: The socialist ideology in Bihar is often equated with caste politics and caste in general – basically, distributing limited resources across various castes. If the focus shifts to productive investment, it will do a lot of good for Bihar. Policy must focus on how to augment production rather than looking at redistributing the limited resources more equitably or in a manner that helps people stay in power.

MT: Bihar has never really followed the socialist model. It also failed to understand the logic behind India's shift to capitalism. Bihar is currently at a significant disadvantage. For any structural change, there must be a solid commitment to reinvestment by the Union government. Unless that is done, the transition to capital will not take place. With respect to migration, if there are good working conditions and a decent income, no Bihari would like to migrate. The amount of investment required to help Bihar move out of this 'frozen transition' phase has not been made. It could be linked to general societal politics. One argument, as Shaibal Gupta used to make, relates to the lack of a distinct Bihari identity. Or as Prashant Kishore says, of the concept of Bihari asmita.

Would special status be of any help to Bihar?

RN: I am not sure it would help. The bigger question relates to whether it will be utilised productively or not. Bihar lacks the state capacity to use it. Whereas, if you give the same money to Andhra Pradesh or Tamil Nadu, they will grab it and use it better.

Being among the poorest states, Bihar gets a considerable amount of resources from the Finance Commission on considerations of its backwardness and to bring greater equality among States. When those are not utilised, the money lapses. Many of these grants are performance-based – meaning the State must raise its own share of resources to access the full amount. This often doesn't happen in Bihar.

MT: If a good amount of money is invested, it would certainly be beneficial. However, no change will come unless we make sure that the money we reinvest is not appropriated by a small number of people – elites, politicians, and contractors. If the money is invested properly, it leads to capital formation. But this also requires a kind of social revolution, one that raises public awareness that these funds are not free gifts, but more like loans. People must understand that we need to rebuild and strengthen our society in order to repay that investment.

About state capacity - many funding packages include a clause requiring the state to contribute a portion of the investment. Now, suppose you give me ₹100 and tell me that I have add to it to utilise the amount. I can't do that as I don't have the money. In a way that amounts to forcing me not to use the money. The special status might be of help – it might remove these conditions and allow us to access the support without being held back by limited state capacity.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The women who fought their way into the Afghan Embassy

The fight in the briefing hall of the Embassy last week was not primarily for gender justice or equality, but for media access

Suhasini Haidar

Women hold up half the sky, but in the room at the Afghanistan Embassy in New Delhi last week, there wasn't space for even one.

The team of the visiting Taliban Foreign Minister, Amir Khan Muttaqi, which used the premises to hold a press conference, did not think it necessary to invite a single woman. The Ministry of External Affairs did not think it was necessary either. Earlier that day, Mr. Muttaqi was hosted at the grand official venue, Hyderabad House, without a woman, official or otherwise, in sight. Whether this was mandated by the Taliban leader, a former Minister of Education for a regime that doesn't allow girls in school beyond Class 6; or a genuine oversight; or a "technical error", as he termed it, it wasn't allowed to pass.

Reportage of the 'men only' press meet, followed by public outrage, forced the government to distance itself from the event and the Taliban delegation to rethink. Two days later, I received a call, inviting me to another press conference. Everyone was invited, with no conditions laid on attire, as they may have been in Kabul. Inside the briefing hall, male journalists, who had attended the previous press conference, had cleared the front row for female journalists, to ensure that Mr. Muttaqi would have no choice but to see them and take their questions. "This is your day," said one of my male colleagues. "We will not be asking any questions, so as to ensure you will all be able to." I smiled, protesting that we should behave as we normally do, sitting together without any gender distinction, and compete for the official's attention, but I was also touched by the gesture.

That day, as Mr. Muttaqi faced a fusillade of questions about the Taliban's denial of basic rights to women in the country, the solidarity of journalists against the prior injustice, however small, sent a powerful message: women cannot and should not be left out of the room.

The truth is, most journalists see their profession as gender-neutral, although there are circumstances and countries where they face different impediments to doing their jobs. In the heat of a conflict, or a riot, or even during a raucous election rally, women will often find that they are not assigned the "tough" stories; discouraged from the front-lines and trenches in a war; or face sexual harassment in the newsroom or in the field. During the protests in the capital against the brutal rape of "Nirbhaya" in 2012, I remember young female colleagues returning ashen-faced from India Gate with horrifying stories of being manhandled or groped by the protesters themselves. On assignment in wars, I have often been told, "this is no place for women", or been asked to stay back. These are all battles women face in every field, not just in journalism, and learn to fight them.

I will also admit that women journalists are sometimes treated more politely and with more consideration than their male counterparts. I once fought my way onto an Indian warship going on an evacuation mission. As the only woman onboard, I got my own cabin, while five colleagues were cramped into one room on hard bunks.

Let us be clear, though: the fight that day in the briefing hall of the Afghanistan Embassy was not primarily for gender justice or equality, but for media access. It is a fight that journalists wage on a daily basis, and increasingly in democracies such as India and the U.S., where leaders shy away from press conferences, or restrict the media that can attend or the questions they can ask. That battle for access may have been won on that day, in that hall, but the fight continues. Sadly, the much larger, and in some ways, more vital battle for millions of Afghan women to go to school, college, or work, and even gyms and public parks has not even begun to be fought.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

An adrenaline rush

A mountain biker races downhill in Gulmarg in north Kashmir. India's first international downhill mountain biking event was held in Gulmarg from October 9 to 12. Top national and international athletes participated in the event, Zabarvan Legends Series. Brazilian biker Douglas Viera won the race. IMRAN NISSAR

FROM THE ARCHIVES — The Hindu

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 17, 1975

Three Americans share Nobel Prize for Medicine

Stockholm, Oct. 16: Two native-born Americans and an Italian who became a United States citizen were awarded the 1975 Nobel Prize for Medicine to-day for cancer research discoveries showing "the interaction between tumour viruses and the genetic material of the cell."

Dr. David Baltimore, 37, of Massachusets Institute of Technology, Dr. Howard Martin Temin, 40, of the University of Wisconsin and Dr. Renato Dulbecco, 61, a naturalised American who was born in Italy and works at the Imperial Cancer Fund Laboratory in London, shared the 1,43,000-dollar prize.

At Madison, Wisconsin, Dr. Temin said: "I am overwhelmed and I am honoured to receive this award."

Dr. Dulbecco said in London the "fantastic" prize took him by surprise. "It came so suddenly I haven't had time to think about it yet," he remarked.

Dr. Temin was one of Dr. Dulbecco's students at the California Institute of Technology in the 1950s while Dr. Baltimore was part of Dr. Dulbecco's research team at the Salk Institute at La Jolia, California.

Dr. Dulbecco said, "I know them very well and see them frequently. But it's only recently that we realised our efforts were converging."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 17, 1925

The war on communism Arrest of leaders

London, Oct. 15: Following a police raid on the British Communist Party Headquarters in London, when three lorry loads of literature were removed, six prominent Communists were arrested, including the Secretary of the Party, Mr. Inkpin, Mr. Harry Pollitt, who is the Party's principal orator, and Mr. Campbell, editor of *The Workers' Weekly*, notorious last year during the Labour Government's regime, when the prosecution abandoned the sedition charge against him.

From Page One

Trump and MEA at odds over Russian oil imports

"I was not happy that India was buying oil, and [PM Modi] assured me today that they will not be buying oil from Russia," Mr. Trump told reporters at the White House, with U.S. Ambassador-designate to Delhi Sergio Gor also present. "It's a little bit of a process, but the process is going to be over with soon," Mr. Trump said, adding, "That's a big step. Now we're going to get China to do the same thing." On Thursday, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs slammed the U.S. for "unilateral bullying" over its "legitimate" imports from Russia.

Going on to praise Mr. Modi as a "great man" who "loves Trump", Mr. Trump said he did not want to "destroy [Mr. Modi's] political career". "I've watched India for years. It's an incredible country, and every single year you'd have a new leader," Mr. Trump said, adding: "My friend has been there now for a long time."

The MEA declined to comment on whether Mr. Gor had discussed the issue with Mr. Modi. In a statement issued on Thursday, a few hours after Mr. Trump's controversial comments, the MEA sought to clarify its position. While it did not specifically mention Russian oil, it said it was seeking to "expand" energy procurement from the U.S.

The MEA was more direct on its response to U.K. sanctions on Nayara, an Indian refiner owned by Russian oil major Rosneft.

"India does not subscribe to any unilateral sanctions... There should be no double standards, especially when it comes to energy trade," Mr. Jaiswal said.

SC confident that EC will reveal Bihar data

Denying his claim, senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the EC, said, "The voters know everything. He is only interested in the analysis of the data. He can wait for some time. Let the elections be completed first."

He told the court that the Commission is in the process of publishing the final electoral roll, which will be completed in line with the nomination deadlines - October 17 for the first phase of elections and October 20 for the second.

"After October 20, we will publish everything. There is no doubt," he assured the Bench.

When Mr. Bhushan urged the Bench to record this assurance in its order, Mr. Dwivedi objected, saying there was "no need."

Russia offers to make Su-57 jets in India

He said that "Russia has consistently honoured its commitments while showing flexibility in developing alternative logistics and payment systems in the face of attempts to disrupt this cooperation."

On the defence ties with India, he said: "For over six decades, Russia has been a trusted defence partner and a key contributor to India's military modernisation, with nearly 70% of India's defence equipment of Russian origin, and a testament to its effectiveness has (been) demonstrated by Operation Sindoor. The partnership has produced several landmark achievements, most notably the joint production of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, which is now being upgraded to a hypersonic version."

Mr. Alipov said that both sides are exploring collaborations in next-generation technologies, including anti-drone systems, advanced radar solutions, and precision strike capabilities.

SC won't lift stay on 42% OBC quota in Telangana

"You may continue with your elections... [State's appeal] dismissed. This will not prevent the High Court from deciding the matter on its own merits," the Bench told the State.

The Telangana Government had approached the Supreme Court challenging the High Court's October 9 order, which halted its move to raise the OBC quota in local bodies. The High Court had found that the proposed increase would push the total reservation, including 15% for Scheduled Castes and 10% for Scheduled Tribes, to 67%, breaching the 50% ceiling prescribed by the Supreme Court in earlier rulings. It had, however, directed the State Election Commission (SEC) to conduct the polls while capping the overall reservation at 50%.

Polling for the Telangana local body elections is scheduled for October 23 and 27.

During the proceedings, senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for the State, argued that the enhanced quota was a "policy decision" aimed at empowering marginalised communities and that there was "a misconception that reservations cannot exceed 50%." He referred to the 1992 judgment in *Indra Sawhney v. Union of India*, which upheld the Mandal Commission recommendations, to contend that the 50% ceiling could be breached in exceptional circumstances. Mr. Singhvi pressed the court to reconsider whether the 50% ceiling should operate as an inflexible limit in matters of reservation. The Bench, however, was not persuaded to entertain such a plea.

Sri Lankan PM goes down memory lane at alma mater

Harini Amarasurya studied at Delhi University's Hindu College in 1991; praising India's diversity, she urged current students to 'never underestimate the power of asking difficult questions'

Ashna Butani
NEW DELHI

The acceptance of diversity and the importance of asking "difficult questions" are enduring memories of India for Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya, who began her first official visit to India on Thursday with a walk down memory lane to her alma mater, Delhi University's Hindu College.

She also met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who said he had "discussed India's continued support to Sri Lanka and strengthening [India-Sri Lanka] cooperation in education & capacity building", addressed business leaders, and attended a diplomatic reception. On Friday, the Sri Lankan PM will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and is expected to discuss deepening economic cooperation and connectivity between the two countries.

Ms. Amarasuriya came to India as a student in 1991, at a time when universities in Sri Lanka were closed due to violence and strikes. She studied Sociology at Hindu College on an Indian government scholarship. Recalling the first time she entered Delhi with "a mixture of dreams, uncertainties, hopes, questions and also nervousness", she said the city had accepted her and made her feel at home.

Sri Lankan PM Harini Amarasuriya with Hindu College Principal Anju Srivastava in New Delhi on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

This acceptance of diversity, she said, is what makes Delhi unique to her. Three decades later, as she entered the same college gates, she was "filled with nostalgia and also admiration".

She thanked her teachers, saying, "They didn't just teach me theories, but they encouraged me to think critically, to question and to never accept injustice as inevitable." College conversations about inequality, feminism, and human development felt both urgent and necessary, she recalled.

After graduating from Hindu College, Ms. Amarasuriya pursued her Masters in Australia and completed a PhD in Social Anthropology focusing on child protection and the complex relationship between state and society.

"Reflecting now on my academic journey, whether it was teaching Sociology, or conducting research on dissent, social justice, discrimination, or human rights, I think that the academic bearings that were instilled in me in Hindu College, were never far from me," she said.

Structural partnership

The India-Sri Lanka partnership is "not episodical" but "structural", Ms. Amarasuriya said, adding, "It is not a temporary convenience of today, it is a necessity of tomorrow."

She said that while India has been an "unwavering partner" in Sri Lanka's journey, supporting its economic recovery, providing critical assistance in times of crisis and standing with Sri Lanka in the pursuit of stability and growth, Sri Lanka has also "consistently upheld her solemn pledge to never permit her soil to be used in a manner that threatens the security of India".

The Sri Lankan PM took a tour of the college, and visited classroom number 27, where she had studied.

Pre-test for Census first phase to be held from November 10

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The option to self-enumerate for the Census will be available from November 1-7

The pre-test for the first phase of Census 2027 will be conducted from November 10 to 30 in selected sample areas of all States and Union Territories, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India said in a notification on Thursday.

The option to self-enumerate will be available from November 1 to 7, the notification added.

This implies that the methodology on caste enumeration has not been finalised yet as, unlike the previous instances, the pre-test for only the first phase – Houselisting and Housing Census – has been notified on Thursday.

In 2019, the questions to be asked in both phases – the Housing Census and Population Enumeration, and the National Population Register (NPR) – were tested in succession from August 12 to September 30.

Testing efficacy

Pre-test is required to test the efficacy of the entire exercise that will be held in two phases, with the Housing Census and Population Enumeration scheduled from April 1, 2026 to February 28, 2027.

This will be the first digital Census, and the first to enumerate caste in independent India.

The test will evaluate the proposed questions, data collection methodologies, training effectiveness, logistics, printing processes, data quality assessment, and identify potential field issues, among others.

The Hindu reported on July 9 that in the pre-test exercise for Census 2027 only questions pertaining to household amenities in the Housing Census phase will be asked.

This is the first Census since 2011 as the exercise that was scheduled in 2021 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will now be completed in 2027.

The pre-test for the planned 2021 Census took place in 2019, covering more than 26 lakh people in 76 districts of 36 States and Union Territories.

NAM should advance goals of Global South: Kirti Vardhan Singh

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) should harness the initiative to advance the aspirations of the Global South, said Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh on Thursday.

Delivering the national statement at the 19th NAM mid-term ministerial meeting in Kampala, Uganda, Mr. Singh said the members of NAM should "repurpose" the movement.

He also participated in a NAM Ministerial Committee on Palestine that met on Wednesday and called for a "two-state" solution on Israel-Palestinian crisis. "We must raise our voice for reformed multilateralism, including the UN Security Council and the international financial institutions for reflecting contemporary realities in global decision making," said Mr. Singh. He said NAM should "destigmatise" movement of skilled professionals and said, "These are of prime importance for harnessing our demographic dividend."

Speaking in support of the rights of Palestinian people, Mr. Singh on Wednesday said innocent Palestinians must not perish because of conflict. "The essential parameters are clear – a sovereign, independent, viable state of Palestine, living side by side in peace and security with Israel, within secure and recognised borders," he said, laying out the Indian policy on Palestine.

Modi has outsourced key decisions to U.S.: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mounting a scathing attack on the Union government over U.S. President Donald Trump's claim that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had assured him India would stop buying Russian oil, the Congress on Thursday alleged that Mr. Modi was "frightened" of Mr. Trump.

The principal Opposition party also alleged that the foreign policy of the Modi government had "completely collapsed" and said the Centre must take Opposition leaders into confidence by either calling an all-party meeting or speaking to them one-on-one.

Taking to X, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi lashed out at Mr. Modi for not countering the U.S. President.

Rahul Gandhi

"Modi is frightened of Trump. Allows Trump to decide and announce that India will not buy Russian oil. Keeps sending congratulatory messages despite repeated snubs. Cancelled the Finance Minister's visit to America. Skipped Sharm el-Sheikh. Doesn't contradict him on Operation Sindoor," Mr. Gandhi said.

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh also targeted the government over the same issue.

"President Trump has declared yesterday that Mr. Modi has assured him that India will not import oil from Russia. Mr. Modi appears to have outsourced key decisions to America...," he added.

Responding to Mr. Gandhi's post, the BJP's IT cell in-charge, Amit Malviya, said if Mr. Modi were afraid of Mr. Trump, the U.S. President would not be publicly saying "Modi is a great man" every few days.

"Rahul Gandhi, given your family's record, and your party's history, it's no surprise you cannot grasp what 'India First' truly means...," he added.

'Confident Russia, India energy ties will continue'

Press Trust of India
MOSCOW

Russia is confident that its energy cooperation with India will "continue", the country's Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said on Thursday, a day after United States President Donald Trump claimed that New Delhi assured him to stop purchasing oil from Russia.

"We continue to cooperate with our friendly partners. Our energy resource is in demand. It is economically viable and feasible," said Mr. Novak, who looks after Russia's energy sector.

"...I am confident that our partners will continue to work with us, interact, and develop energy cooperation," he added.

Abujhmad, North Bastar regions free of Maoists: Shah

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday wrote on social media platform X that Abujhmad and North Bastar regions of Chhattisgarh had been declared free of "Naxalism" and that the fight against Maoism was in a decisive phase in South Bastar.

Abujhmad forests, a large unsurveyed forested tract and bigger than the State of Goa, is spread across Narayanpur, Bijapur, Dantewada and Kanker districts of Chhattisgarh and the bordering area of Gadchiroli (Maharashtra), and has long been considered a safe hideout for Maoists.

In another post, the Union Minister said that "258 battle-hardened left-wing extremists had abjured violence in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra over the last two days".

Protests against Indians in Australia an 'extremist sentiment', says its Minister

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The recent anti-immigration rallies in Australia that targeted the Indian community do not represent majority of the Australian people, said Anne Aly, Canberra's Minister of Multicultural Affairs here on Thursday.

Speaking at an event organised by the Australian High Commission, Ms. Aly said the Government of India had raised the issue of anti-immigration rallies targeting the Indian community in Australia, saying anti-India sentiment was a "minority extremist sentiment".

"We value you. We thank you. We stand by you. You belong in Australia. And so, to the people who would tell immigrants to "go home" - I say: "they are home!" I want to reassure everyone that the divisive rhetoric expressed at the anti-migration rallies is not shared by the overwhelming majority of Australians," said Ms. Aly, who is of Egyptian origin and is known for her inclusive politics.

Anne Aly

Ms. Aly's visit to India came a month after anti-immigration rallies were held in multiple cities across Australia that targeted the Indian community. Following the rallies, there are increased reports of targeting of Indian community in the country through racist abuse and slurs.

Ms. Aly said the authorities in India and Australia had been in contact over the incidents and said, "Understandably, the Government of India has expressed their concern to my government about these recent anti-immigration protests. ...I appreciate that the Government of India recognised that the actions of this small group do not represent the broader Australian community."

"It is not the Australia that I know. It is a minority, extremist sentiment held by a vanishingly small group in our country," said Ms. Aly in a speech that drew on her personal experience of growing up as an Australian of Egyptian background in a multicultural part of Sydney.

Gujarat Ministers quit ahead of reshuffle

Abhinay Deshpande
AHMEDABAD

In a sweeping move ahead of the anticipated Cabinet reshuffle, all Ministers in the Bhupendra Patel-led Gujarat government tendered their resignations on Thursday, clearing the way for a new team to be sworn in on Friday.

The existing council of Ministers, which had 17 members, is likely to be expanded to 22 or 23, with several new faces expected to join the Cabinet, sources told *The Hindu*. Nearly half of the current Ministers may be replaced in what is being described as one of the most significant reshuffles of Mr. Patel's tenure.

The swearing-in ceremony will take place at 11.30 a.m. on Friday with Governor Acharya Devvrat administering the oath, according to officials. A senior leader said the expansion may see the induction of around 10 new Ministers.

The State, with a 182-member Assembly, can have up to 27 Ministers – 15% of the total strength.

APPEAL

Ms. Yogasri, Hospital No. MR 1325997 17 years daughter of Mr. Maduraiveeran.K admitted G. Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial Hospital. She has been Diagnosed with Blood Cancer-Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML-M4). She needs Intensive Chemotherapy (3+7 Induction) followed by response assessment. She requires Intensive Monitoring, blood products support, Antibiotics as needed for Infection Management. The Approximate Cost of the above management Rs. 15,00,000/-

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BIHAR ASSEMBLY POLLS

BJP names star campaigners; PM, CMs in list

The BJP on Thursday released a list of 40 star campaigners, featuring top leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, party chief J.P. Nadda, and Union Ministers Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh.

The list features a mix of prominent leaders and celebrities. It includes five Chief Ministers, including Assam's Himanta Biswa Sarma, Delhi's Rekha Gupta, and Maharashtra's Devendra Fadnavis. Bhojpuri film actors Manoj Tiwari, Ravi Kishan, both MPs, and Pawan Singh were also named.

Mr. Shah reached Patna on Thursday on a three-day visit to strategise for the Bihar election. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar also started his campaign from Darbhanga and addressed public meetings in support of the NDA candidates.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah being received in Patna on Thursday. PTI

SIR aimed at vote theft, says Digvijaya Singh

Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh on Thursday alleged that the Election Commission's special intensive revision (SIR) across India was aimed at facilitating "vote theft", and claimed that the constituent parties of the INDIA bloc would strongly oppose it with documentary evidence.

Speaking at a private event, he accused the BJP of having 62 lakh voters removed from the electoral rolls in Bihar to influence the Assembly elections. He asserted, however, that the alliance in Bihar would still form the government.

"The alliance in Bihar is contesting very strongly and will defeat the NDA. People are fed up with Nitish Kumar's government," Mr. Singh said. He said that the Centre was violating the fundamental rights of citizens. PTI

> Bihar is looking forward to continuing its journey to progress. At such a time, Congress and RJD are indulging in mischief by raising row over burkhas

YOGI ADITYANATH
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

NDA will return to power with majority: Deo Sai

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Thursday asserted that the National Democratic Alliance would return to power with a thumping majority in Bihar after the Assembly polls. "The Central government has been continuously making efforts to make Bihar a fully developed State," he said. PTI

> If they [grand alliance parties] do not come to a consensus and contest independently, it will benefit us [NDA] as we will win more seats

RAMDAS ATHAWALE
Union Minister

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Kumar Sinha filing nomination. His colleague Samrat Choudhary and Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta are present. ANI

Guns, gold, and criminal cases: what election affidavits of leaders reveal

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Bihar Deputy Chief Ministers Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha, and the State's Leader of the Opposition Tejashwi Yadav have at least one thing in common – their love for guns.

All three have filed their nomination papers for the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election. According to his election affidavit filed on Wednesday, Mr. Yadav has an Italian Beretta NPB 380 bore pistol and 50 rounds of bullets worth ₹1.5 lakh. His rival, Mr. Choudhary, who submitted his nomination papers on Thursday, has a rifle worth ₹4 lakh and a revolver, given by his father, worth ₹2 lakh. Mr. Sinha owns a rifle and a revolver.

Mr. Yadav and his family have total assets worth ₹8.98 crore, including movable assets worth ₹6.12 crore. His wife Rajshree, alias Rachel Iris Godinho, has ₹59.69 lakh and their minor children, Katyayani Irish Yadav and Iraj Lalu Yadav, have over ₹40 lakh.

Mr. Yadav has 18 criminal cases pending against him, and four are under appeal. The 36-year-old has mentioned that he has studied till Class 9. He and his family have jewellery worth ₹86.9 lakh – 980 grams of gold worth ₹83.93 lakh and 3.5 kg of silver worth ₹2.97 lakh. He does not own any vehicles, the affidavit said.

Mr. Yadav has two joint savings accounts at a private bank with his mother Rabri Devi and elder brother Tej Pratap Yadav.

Total assets

Besides the two guns, Mr. Choudhary has total assets of worth ₹99.32 lakh, including jewellery and bullion of ₹20 lakh, and a car. His wife, Kumari Mamta, has total assets worth ₹27.89 lakh and their two children have assets of ₹67.13 lakh. The Deputy Chief Minister has immovable assets of ₹2.3 lakh, his wife's immovable assets are valued at ₹65.59 lakh. The leader has two criminal cases pending against him.

Jan Suraaj Party leader Prashant Kishor had questioned his education qualification alleging that he had failed in the Class 10 exam. As per the affidavit, Mr. Choudhary's highest qualification is DLitt (Honorary) from Kamraj University.

Mr. Sinha has total assets worth over ₹1 crore. He has bank deposits of ₹29 lakh and has invested more than ₹45 lakh in the share market. He has 90 grams of gold worth ₹10 lakh, received as gift during a family marriage. His wife Sushila Devi's total assets are worth ₹2.81 crore. This includes 450 grams of gold worth ₹49.5 lakh, an SUV worth over ₹24 lakh, and a capital balance of over ₹1.27 crore in Shiva Enterprises.

Sinha's affidavit

Mr. Sinha, who filed his papers on Wednesday, has immovable property of ₹3.2 crore, whereas his wife has property worth ₹4.5 crore, which includes agricultural and commercial land.

Janata Dal (United) candidate Anant Singh, also known as Chhote Sarkar, has declared assets of ₹37.88 crore. The 'Bahubali' leader has 28 criminal cases pending against him.

His wife, Neelam Devi, won the Mokama seat on RJD ticket in 2020 and later moved to the NDA. While Mr. Singh has immovable assets worth ₹11.22 crore, his wife has movable assets worth ₹13.07 crore and immovable assets worth ₹49.65 crore.

After hectic parleys, grand alliance manages to settle seat-sharing deal

As Mukesh Sahani played hardball and the Rashtriya Janata Dal remained intractable, the CPI(ML) and the Congress played peacemakers during the discussion for the seat distribution for the Bihar polls; VIP likely to get 15 seats; Congress announces list of 48 candidates for first and second phases

IN FOCUS

Sobhana K. Nair
Amarnath Tewary
NEW DELHI/ PATNA

After prolonged negotiations, the *Mahagatbandhan* (grand alliance) managed to settle the seat division between the allies by late Thursday night, hours before the final deadline for filing nominations for the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election. A formal announcement is awaited.

Thursday saw hectic parleys between the allies, with Mukesh Sahani's Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) nearly jumping the ship.

Many expected that Mr. Sahani, who had walked out of the grand alliance at the last minute in the run-up to the 2020 Assembly election in Bihar, would repeat his move, when he announced a press conference at noon. The press conference was then postponed twice before being cancelled.

The parleys between the RJD, the Congress, and the CPI(ML) Liberation stretched through Wednesday night and Thursday. The Congress brought in former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Bagel for the final round of talks.

Three seats – Kahalgaon, Vaishali and Jale – were the bone of contention between the Congress and the RJD. The Congress released a list of candidates for 48 seats on Thursday night. Bihar Congress State President Rajesh Ram and Congress Legislature Party leader Shakeel Ahmed Khan retained their candidature for Kutumba and Kadwa Assembly constituencies, respectively. The list has five women candidates. Out of 48, 24 names were for the first phase of polling and 24 for the second phase. The list features four Muslim candidates, nine Scheduled Caste candidates, and one Scheduled Tribe candidate.

Increase in seat share

The CPI(ML) has been insisting on an increased seat share, based on its 2020 electoral performance when it won 12 of the 19 seats it contested. According to sources, the party is likely to get a minor increment, in the form of an additional seat.

When Mr. Sahani called for the press conference at noon, the grand alliance partners got together. It is learnt from sources that the RJD was of the view to not pander to Mr. Sahani's demands, citing his 2020 walkout. However, CPI(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, playing the peacemaker, insisted that it was crucial to keep the grand alliance intact, even if it meant that the CPI(ML) or other allies have to sacrifice one or two seats. The Congress also backed the view.

Easier times: VIP chief Mukesh Sahani, CPI(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, and Bihar Congress in-charge Krishna Allavaru in Patna in May. FILE PHOTO

By afternoon, with the RJD remaining intractable, Mr. Sahani wrote a letter to the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, pleading for his case. Mr. Sahani said that he was initially promised 35 seats, which had been reduced to 25 and then further down to 18. The issue, he said, was not the number of seats but about ideology. He also reaffirmed his commitment to the grand alliance, claiming that he was aligned against "communal and divisionary forces".

Mr. Gandhi, it is learnt, intervened on Mr. Sahani's behalf. Congress sources told *The Hindu* that the RJD has agreed to give 15 seats to the VIP.

Press meet cancelled

Amid these parleys, Mr. Sahani's press conference was deferred till 4 p.m., then later again to 6 p.m., and finally called off. All through the day, the VIP leaders gave sound-bites to the media, underlining the electoral importance of their party, to build the pressure for more seats. VIP spokesperson Sunil Nishad said, "If we do not get the desired seats they [Tejashwi Yadav and Rahul Gandhi] will have to pay a price." He argued that the Nishad caste group, which the party claims to represent, makes about 10% of the total voting population in the State.

The confusion in the grand alliance has come as a shot in the arm for the ruling National Democratic Alliance, which had been battling dissensions, which are far from settled. Bihar BJP president Dilip Jaiswal, taking a swipe at the grand alliance, said, "It seems Mr. Sahani has been "thrown out of the *mahagatbandhan* like a speck in the milk". He praised Mr. Sahani, saying that he is well accepted among the Nishads.

The VIP leader, after a stint in the Hindi film industry as a set designer, started "Nishad Vikas Sangh" a caste federation in 2015, that campaigned for the BJP in the Assembly election that year. He parted ways with the BJP, protesting the exclusion of the Nishad community from the Schedule Caste category. In 2018, he launched the VIP. The party unsuccessfully contested the 2019 Lok Sabha election as part of the *mahagatbandhan*. Mr. Sahani lost from Khagaria constituency.

In the 2020 Bihar election, after switching to the NDA, he lost from the Simri-Bakhtiyarpur Assembly segment, though his party won four seats. Despite the loss, Mr. Sahani was accommodated in the Nitish Kumar Cabinet, where he served as Minister for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries till March 2022. Three of the four VIP MLAs switched to the BJP midway through the Assembly tenure. Lamenting the betrayal, Mr. Sahani returned to the grand alliance in April 2024.

JD(U), LJP(RV), and RLM release lists; NDA names all 243 candidates

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) on Thursday completed the announcement of its candidates for all 243 constituencies ahead of the Bihar Assembly election.

On Thursday, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United) announced its second and final list of 44 candidates while the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) and Upendra Kushwaha's Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM) also announced nominees for their remaining seats.

The JD(U) has fielded turncoats Chetan Anand and Vibha Devi from Nabinagar and Nawada respectively. Both Mr. Chetan Anand, son of strongman Anand Mohan, and Ms. Vibha Devi were earlier associated with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). Besides, the JD(U) has nominated Kaladhar Mandal from Rupauli.

The JD(U) and the BJP are contesting from 101 constituencies each. The BJP has already announced its 101 candidates and its third and final list was released on Wednesday.

Chirag Paswan's LJP(RV) and the RLM are contesting from 29 and six seats, respectively. Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) had released its list of all six candidates on Tuesday.

BJP candidate Sanjay Gupta with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and others at a rally in Patna on Thursday. ANI

Detailed break up

Thirteen women candidates and four Muslim leaders feature among the JD(U)'s 101 nominees. It has also attempted a caste balance by allotting the maximum number of 37 tickets to candidates from the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). The party has given tickets to 22 candidates each from the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) and the Upper Castes, followed by 14 candidates from the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and one from a Scheduled Tribe (ST).

Mr. Kushwaha released his party's second list of two candidates on Thursday. The party has fielded Rameshwar Kumar Mahato from Bajpatti and Madan Choudhary from Paroo. A day earlier, the party had released its first list of four candidates, which included Mr. Kushwaha's wife Snehlata, contesting from the Sasaram constituency.

Similarly, Mr. Paswan released the LJP(RV)'s second list of 15 candidates on Thursday. The first list of 14 candidates came out on Wednesday. Overall, the party has nominated six women to contest the coming polls. As for the social equation, it has allocated five seats each to the Rajputs and Yadavs, four seats each to the Paswan and Bhumihar communities, and the remaining 11 seats have been distributed among different groups such as Dhobi, Kanu, Ravidas, Kushwaha, and Muslim.

Interestingly, before the Assembly election, Mr. Paswan had expressed interest in contesting the Assembly election. However, his name does not figure in the list of 29 candidates.

Nominations filed

Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary and several Ministers filed their nominations on Thursday. Chief Ministers from several States and senior BJP leaders attended the nomination rallies held in various Assembly constituencies in a show of strength by the NDA.

Mr. Choudhary filed his nomination from Tarapur, Nitin Nabin from Bankipur, Sanjay Gupta from Kumhrar, Ram Kripal Yadav from Danapur, Siddharth Saurav from Bikram and Kumar Pranay from Munger. As many as 18 candidates of the BJP filed their nomination papers during the day.

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav were among those who attended the nomination rallies of BJP leaders.

With grandmother's photo in hand, Tej Pratap files papers

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Tej Pratap Yadav, the elder son of Lalu Prasad and Rabri Devi, on Thursday filed his election affidavit from the Mahua Assembly constituency in Vaishali district with a photograph of his grandmother, Marchhayiya Devi, in hand.

This comes a day after his younger brother and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav filed his nomination papers from the Raghopur seat in the same district in the presence of his parents.

Ousted from the RJD for six years following a controversy, Mr. Tej Pratap has floated the Janshakti Janata Dal and has fielded 20 candidates till now for the coming Assembly election. "My grandmother has been my inspiration," he said.

Mahua is around 50 km from Raghopur from where Mr. Tejashwi is contesting. Sources said Mr. Tej Pratap wanted his parents and family to be present, but with no one accompanying him from the family, he decided to take the photograph of his grandmother with him.

The RJD has fielded MLA Mukesh Kumar Raushan from the seat. Mr. Tej Pratap had won the Assembly election from Mahua in 2015, but in 2020, he switched to Hasanpur in the neighbouring Samastipur district. "I am contesting from Mahua this time as I have done development works, and people wanted me," he told pressperson earlier.

Tej Pratap Yadav before filing nomination papers from Mahua Assembly constituency. PTI

Poll affidavit

According to his election affidavit, Mr. Tej Pratap has movable assets worth ₹91.65 lakh. He has immovable property worth ₹1.96 crore and owns 200 grams of gold valued at ₹22 lakh apart from a motorcycle worth ₹6.85 lakh and a fleet of cars. The leader has eight criminal cases pending against him.

INBRIEF

Southwest monsoon gave 8% surplus rain, says IMD

The southwest monsoon withdrew from the entire country on Thursday, a day after the usual date of October 15, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. At the same time, the northeast monsoon has set in over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, coastal Andhra Pradesh, and other regions, the IMD said. This year, the monsoon reached Kerala on May 24 , its earliest onset over the Indian mainland since 2009. It covered the entire country nine days before the usual date of July 8. India recorded 937.2 mm of rainfall against the normal of 868.6 mm, a surplus of 8%, in the four-month monsoon season that ended on September 30. PTI

HAL's LCA Tejas production line to be inaugurated today

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's newly established third production line for its light combat aircraft, the Tejas Mark 1A variant, at its Nashik facility on Friday. This will have the capacity to manufacture eight aircraft per year. The Minister will also inaugurate the second production line for the Hindustan Turbo Trainer (HTT)-40 basic trainer aircraft. A senior HAL official said that the occasion would be marked by the maiden flight of the first LCA Tejas Mk1A produced by HAL's Aircraft Manufacturing Division in Nashik.

States must set up special prisons for fugitives: Shah

Fugitives argue against extradition to India, claiming prisons do not meet global standards; India cannot be truly secure until those hiding abroad begin to fear our justice system, says Minister

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

States need to construct special prisons for fugitives in line with international standards, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday. Though he did not agree with the contention that Indian prisons are not in good condition, he said special prisons were necessary as fugitives often take a plea in foreign courts that they should not be extradited to India as the prisons here do not meet the minimum international standard.

Addressing a conference on the "Extradition of Fugitives: Challenges and Strategies", organised by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Home Minister said there was a need to develop coordination mechanisms and protocols between the passport issuance process and law enforcement agencies, so that passports can be red-flagged or cancelled as soon as a Red Corner Notice is issued against the passport holder.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah with CBI Director Praveen Sood during a conference organised by the CBI in New Delhi. PTI

"The process of seizure of passport or its cancellation should begin as soon as a Red-Corner notice is issued against them so that the movement of fugitives outside the country can be curtailed and they can be brought to India as soon as possible," Mr. Shah said.

'Zero tolerance'

He said that a special campaign should be launched to convert the existing Blue Corner Notices into Red Corner Notices, and a dedicated cell for this purpose should be created in every State. "Under the Multi Agency Centre (MAC), the CBI and IB (Intelligence Bureau) should jointly establish a special task force to ensure smooth implementation of this entire process. India cannot be truly secure until those in hiding abroad, who harm the country's economy, sovereignty, and security begin to fear the Indian justice system," Mr. Shah said.

A zero-tolerance approach must be adopted towards terrorists and economic offenders who harm India's interests from beyond India's borders, the Minister said.

"It is our responsibility to bring all such criminals under the purview of Indian laws and to create a robust mechanism for this purpose," he said. The conference is a concerted effort to ensure the production of a fugitive criminal before Indian courts and provides a road map to achieve this, Mr. Shah said.

Some of the major topics of discussion at the conference are cybertechnology, financial crimes, tracing the source and flow of funds, simplifying complex extradition processes, bringing fugitives back, creating a database of their geographical locations, and using this mechanism through cooperation with international police.

"The issue of fugitive criminals is linked to the country's sovereignty, economic stability, law and order, and national security. The time has come to ensure a system that adopts a ruthless approach and brings every fugitive before the Indian justice system in a time-bound manner," he said. With the cooperation of the CBI, States must establish a unit dedicated to creating a mechanism to bring back fugitives who have committed crimes and fled the State, Mr. Shah said.

Attack on CJI Gavai: SC cautions against 'raking up' incident

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

B.R. Gavai

The Supreme Court on Thursday questioned whether further judicial time should be spent on the attempted attack on Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai by an advocate earlier this month, observing that doing so may give more "fillip" to "publicity-hungry" individuals.

The court nevertheless agreed to examine, after the Deepavali break, whether contempt proceedings should be initiated against the 71-year-old lawyer, Rakesh Kishore.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi made the remarks while hearing a mentioning by senior advocate Vikas Singh, president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), who urged the court to take *suo motu* cognisance and initiate contempt proceedings against Mr. Kishore for his conduct and his continued lack of remorse.

"We want to project the angst of the Bar... the incident is being glorified on social media," Mr. Singh said.

The Bench, however, expressed reservations about allowing the matter to gain further traction. "Let it die a natural death. Let it meet its fate with the contempt it deserves," Justice Kant remarked.

Nod for contempt

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta informed the court that Attorney-General R. Venkataramani had already granted his consent for initiating contempt proceedings, saying the incident had affected the institutional integrity of the court.

The Bench noted that the Chief Justice had himself shown "magnanimity" by ignoring the episode and asking others to do the same.

The Bench further cautioned that reviving the incident might only amplify it and warned that initiating contempt proceedings could "create another episode" and fuel social-media attention.

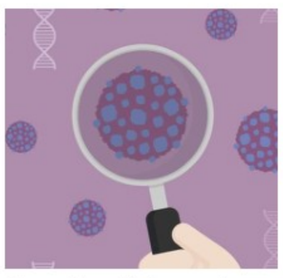
Google's new AI finds promising approach for cancer treatment

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Opening a portal to a new approach to drug discovery, Google unveiled a family of artificial intelligence tools that proposed a drug combination for detecting cancer that human experts did not know about, which seemed effective in laboratory conditions.

This is a rare instance of AI being used in the process of scientific discovery to design practical drug candidates.

The Cell2Sentence-Scale 27B (C2S-Scale) is a 27-billion-parameter foundation model designed to understand the language of individual cells. "This announcement marks a milestone for AI in science," Shekoofeh Azizi and Brian Perozzi, staff scientists at Google DeepMind and Google Research, respectively, said in a blogpost, adding, "C2S-Scale generated a novel hypothesis about cancer cellular behaviour and we have since confirmed its prediction with experimental validation in living cells. This discovery reveals a promising new pathway for developing therapies to fight cancer."



The problem that researchers set out to solve was how to detect an emerging tumour.

Their research paper, with the scientific details, was made available for public scrutiny at bioRxiv, a repository of pre-prints.

The problem that researchers set out to solve was how to detect an emerging tumour when the immune system itself was unaware of it. A strategy was to force such nascent tumours to display immune-triggering signals through a process called antigen presentation.

The C2S-Scale 27B model was given a task: find a drug that boosts immune signals only if low levels of interferon are present. Interferons are proteins produced by the body and act as frontline defenders against infections and tumours. This is a situation that exists when a tumour is likely secretly growing while avoiding the body's natural threat detection system. Small AI, or Large Language Models were unable to learn this. By exposing the 27-billion parameter model to two large data sets – real-world patient samples with tumour-immune interactions plus low-level interferon signalling and cell-line data with no immune context – the scientists trod upon insight.

They first simulated the effect of over 4,000 drugs and noted how many of them worked in situations where interferon levels were low even as the tumours grew. Out of the many drug candidates highlighted by the model, a fraction (10%-30%) of drug hits are already known in prior literature, while the remaining drugs were "surprising hits with no prior known link". The model zeroed in on a chemical drug called silmitasertib that only seemed to boost the immune system when it suspected a tumour.

"With more pre-clinical and clinical tests, this discovery may reveal a promising new pathway for developing therapies to fight cancer," Sundar Pichai, CEO, Google and Alphabet, posted on X on Thursday.

HC upholds cancellation of forest rights of villagers

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Chhattisgarh High Court has dismissed a petition challenging the cancellation of community forest rights granted to villagers of Ghatbarra in the Hasdeo Arand forest, where an Adani Enterprises-owned entity is operating the Parsa East and Kete Basen coal mines.

The ruling, for the first time, addressed the question of whether forest rights granted under the 2006 Forest Rights Act (FRA) can be revoked or cancelled, given that the law does not explicitly provide for any such measure.

In an order dated October 8, Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey stated that granting the community forest rights in itself was a "mistake" that was "rectified" through the cancellation, concluding that this made the order granting the rights "*void ab initio*".

The ruling addressed the question of whether 2006 FRA forest rights can be revoked or cancelled

The judgment came on a batch of petitions initially filed by the Forest Rights Committee of Ghatbarra village, a statutory body under the FRA, later joined by civil society organisations and petitioners. The petition, initiated in 2016, saw the Forest Rights Committee withdraw its application.

The petitioners submitted that three community forest rights titles were recognised and granted to the Ghatbarra villagers through an order in 2013. In 2016, the District-Level Committee (DLC) in Surguja district cancelled these rights, noting they had been erroneously granted as the patch of land fell under mining areas, for which diversion of forest was already approved in 2012.

In citing its grounds for dismissing the challenge to the cancellation of forest rights, the High Court said that the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited had completed Phase I of mining over the past decade and had also received clearance for Phase II in 2022. "Three years have passed since then, and claims of the residents of village Ghatbarra with regard to individual or community forest rights, if any, can be compensated in terms of money," it said.

The court added that it cannot accept the arguments of the petitioners because the forest diversion was already cleared in 2013. It noted that the petitioners never challenged any of the initial orders allocating the coal mines or approving forest diversion for them in 2011, 2012, and 2015, even though the petition was filed in 2016.

Contempt plea against Mamata withdrawn

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A petition seeking contempt proceedings against West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in connection with the teacher recruitment case was withdrawn from the Supreme Court on Thursday after Attorney-General R. Venkataramani declined to grant his consent, a statutory requirement for initiating such proceedings.

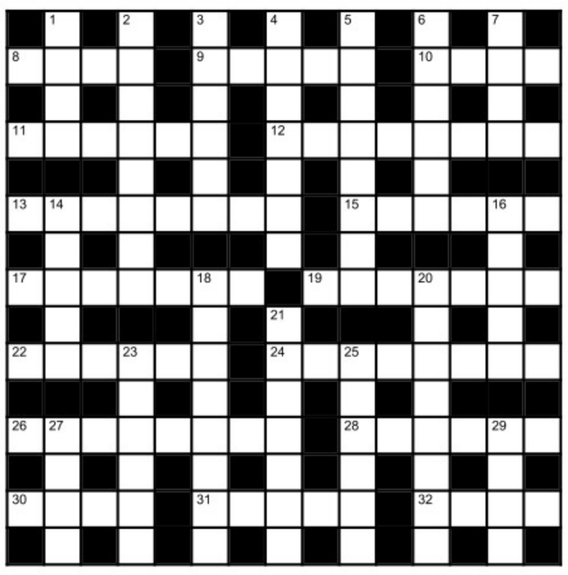
A Bench of the Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran permitted the withdrawal after the petitioner, a charitable trust, informed the court that the Attorney-General had refused to accord consent. "I have received instructions to withdraw the present contempt petition," advocate Ayush Anand, appearing for the petitioner, apprised the Bench.

TH CROSSWORD + 14616

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Judicial lord's love for game (4)
9 Send right before time-off (5)
10 Animals in Budapest (4)
11 Note about billionaire Prime Minister (6)
12 Brings to life worried inmates after commencement of agitation (8)
13 Roll pet cigar to show label giving cost (5,3)
15 Post script containing initially released order of evidences (6)
17 Flying drone in poster is decorated (7)
19 Fit of anger from teetotaller to have drink after consuming a noggin at first (7)
22 Vehicle operator's club found at golf course (6)
24 Woman with soldier in nude dancing? It is needless! (8)
26 Moving in pain from putting down on paper about husband (8)
28 Modified forewings strangely traced in bits (6)
30 Country where mail is lost? (4)
31 Arise and dress (3,2)
32 Part of Copenhagen is not closed (4)

Down

1 Appealing chop by European (4)
2 Rotor and cam adjusted in automobile (8)
3 Perhaps painter broke sitar model (6)
4 Ban... even after a loss of a couple of letters from each side remains a ban (7)
5 Taipei HO shifted in country (8)
6 Indian island returned in new order at first (6)
7 Give up cutting edge without gutting? (4)
14 Jockey's condition (5)
16 Tuneful composition without starting to use new instrument (5)
18 Revenue generated by line managers, excluding male (8)
20 Poet composed sonnet about New York (8)
21 Whisked egg put in nuts forms lumps (7)
23 Elect five before note is circulated around one (4,2)
25 Woman assists puppies (6)
27 Bellow, "Right propeller" (4)
29 Regrets, "Sure is wrong" (4)

SUDOKU

	6			2			3	
						9		
3			1	8	7			
		3			8	6		
9	2		7		6		4	5
		6	5			7		
			6	5	9			1
		5						
	3			7			2	

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

T	I	M	P	A	N	I		V	I	A	T	I	C	A
I		A		G		M		O		L		R		G
P	E	D	A	L		P	A	C	E	M	A	K	E	R
O		R		O		L		A		A		E		E
F	R	E	E	W	H	E	E	L		N	U	D	G	E
F		P				M				D				D
	R	O	T	A		E	Y	E	S	I	G	H	T	
		R		P		N		A		N		A		
	D	E	C	A	N	T	E	R		E	T	N	A	
P				R				N				G		A
R	E	B	U	T		C	L	E	V	E	R	E	S	T
E		U		H		R		S		N		R		T
F	O	R	C	E	M	E	A	T		E	N	S	U	E
E		N		I		P		L		M		O		N
R	E	S	I	D	U	E		Y	E	A	R	N	E	D

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	6	2	5	3	1	7	9	4
9	5	7	6	8	4	3	2	1
3	4	1	2	9	7	5	6	8
1	7	4	3	6	9	2	8	5
5	2	9	7	4	8	6	1	3
6	8	3	1	2	5	4	7	9
2	9	5	8	7	3	1	4	6
7	1	8	4	5	6	9	3	2
4	3	6	9	1	2	8	5	7

FAITH

Norms for a good life

In the Mahabharata, Yaksha Prasna, the dialogue between Yaksha (a celestial being) and Yudhishthira, contains valuable guidelines and codes of conduct for leading a good life. Sri Aravindalochanan Swamy narrated some of these dialogues in a discourse.

The Yaksha asked, "Which is the greatest dharma?" Yudhishthira replied that while many noble deeds exist, such as creating ponds, protecting cows, and performing other acts of service, the highest dharma is not to cause trouble to any living being. Even if we are not able to help others in distress, we should at least pray to God to give them the strength to bear their suffering and overcome it. Acharya Nampillai teaches that when we see others' suffering, we should not think that they are facing the result of their past deeds.

The Yaksha then asked, "How does a man become free from grief?" To this, Yudhishthira replied, "By controlling one's mind, as the mind is the root cause of everything." True peace comes only when the mind is disciplined for, it is the restless mind that creates sorrow and bondage.

To another question, "Which friendship will last forever?", Yudhishthira answered that friendship with Acharyas, devotees of God, pious people, and learned scholars will endure for, such company uplifts the soul and leads one towards the path of truth and dharma.

To a question when a man becomes free from sorrow, Yudhishthira replied that a man is free from sorrow when he gives up enmity and anger. We should avoid developing enmity with others, as it only harms our peace of mind and health.

SILVER LINING

Sobhana first Bangladesh woman to score ODI fifty against Australia

K.R. DEEPAK

Sobhana Mostary became the first Bangladesh batter to register a fifty against Australia in women's ODI cricket during the World Cup game in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. Sobhana made 66 not out to lift Bangladesh to a total of 198 for nine. Teammate Rubya Haider's 44 scored earlier in the day was the previous best.

PEG AWAY

We don't undermine any team... try our best to win every game: Mlaba

K.R. DEEPAK

Nonkululeko Mlaba says South Africa will not take Sri Lanka lightly ahead of its fixture against the home team in Colombo. "They definitely have a good team. The spinners are very good, and (Chamari) Athapaththu herself. We don't undermine any team, but we just play our own game and try our best to win it."

SAILING THROUGH

Lakshya, Satwik-Chirag move into the Denmark Open quarterfinals

AFP

Lakshya Sen stunned World No. 2 Anders Antonsen 21-13, 21-14 to sail into the quarterfinals of the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton in Odense on Thursday. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also advanced with a 21-19, 21-17 win over Taiwan's pair of Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan.

STEALING A WIN

Patna Pirates holds off a fighting Bengaluru Bulls in a thriller

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Patna Pirates beat Bengaluru Bulls via the tiebreaker (6-4) after the two teams were in a 38-38 deadlock at the end of regulation time in a PKL-12 match in New Delhi on Thursday. Ayan Lohchab led the way with a Super 10. Later, U Mumba got the better of Telugu Titans 33-26 while Haryana Steelers outclassed UP Yoddhas 53-26.

King, Healy and Litchfield make it a no-contest; Australia enters semifinals

The leg-spinner (10-4-18-2) ties down the Bangladesh batters in knots before the openers remain unseparated in a modest chase of 199; Sobhana fights hard with an unbeaten 66 while Rubya chips in with 44 for the Tigresses

Stars of the show: King's miserly spell and Healy's second successive hundred helped Australia continue its unbeaten run. K.R. DEEPAK

ODI WORLD CUP

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

It was a tale of two halves, but with a predictable ending for Australia as it blew past Bangladesh in a 10-wicket win at the ACA-VDCA Stadium here on Thursday, thereby becoming the first side to seal a semifinal spot in the Women's ODI World Cup.

Errant lines, generous extras, and an uncharacteristically sloppy fielding helped Bangladesh huff and puff its way to 198 for nine, with Phoebe Litchfield and Alyssa Healy featuring in the gaffes reel. But the pair compensated in the best way possible, nullifying a usually wily Bangladeshi bowling unit – sans Marufa Akter and Nahida Akter – with expert precision.

After a slow start, Phoebe picked two boundaries off Fariha Trisna to set the course for the rest of the innings.

Healy soon joined the party and the two helped Australia put up 78 runs by the end of the PowerPlay and enter triple figures in 13.5 overs – its quickest this campaign.

The end was quick for Bangladesh, thanks to exhibition hitting from the duo – Healy registering her second consecutive ton this tournament while Litchfield ticked off her eighth ODI half-century along the way.

Earlier, Bangladesh opted to bat, placing faith once again in its ability to mount a stubborn defence.

Missed opportunities

Litchfield gave Rubya Haider an early reprieve, while Healy's spill denied Darcie Brown an early celebration. Despite Fargana Hoque falling in the ninth over, Bangladesh's calculated approach helped it see off the PowerPlay with the scoreboard reading 37 for one – its best showing in the tournament.

Rubya chose to live life on the edge, and luck favoured her, with the edges running away to the fence. She fell short of a deserved fifty, holing out to Tahlia McGrath at mid-on. Sharmin soon followed suit similarly.

Alana King, managing close to 4.5 degrees of turn, claimed the prized scalps of Nigar Sultana and Shorna Akter, the latter failing to replicate her pyrotechnics from the previous game.

Sobhana Mostary fought hard with a half-century to drag Bangladesh to a workable score, but it was always going to be a cakewalk for the dominant Aussies, who sealed the win with 25.1 overs to spare.

The scores: Bangladesh 198/9 in 50 overs (Rubya Haider 44, Sobhana Mostary 66 n.o.) lost to Australia 202/0 in 24.5 overs (Alyssa Healy 113 n.o., Phoebe Litchfield 84 n.o.).
Toss: Bangladesh.
PoM: Alana King.

Trial by pace has made Sobhana a shining light

Rajdeep Saha
CHENNAI

On May 14, 2018, a 16-year-old Sobhana Mostary became Bangladesh's fourth-youngest debutant in women's ODIs. It was a trial by pace as she faced South Africa's Marizanne Kapp and Shabnim Ismail.

"Back then, Shabnim was one of the fiercest bowlers. I was wearing an ordinary pad, and one of her deliveries hit me on the leg. I told myself, 'If I have to play at this level, I need to be brave.' I made five runs and remained not out," Sobhana told *The Hindu*.

The 23-year-old, one of her side's standout batters in the ongoing Women's ODI World Cup, however, is quite critical of her career trajectory.

This is her fifth World Cup – three T20 and two ODI – and her first real taste of the showpiece came at the 2020 T20 World Cup in Australia, where she played just one game. The last ODI World Cup in New Zealand was similar. Her first international fifty came in this edition - a 108-ball 60 against England.

"I don't think I'm a successful batter. I've spent more than six years with the team and had plenty of chances. Maybe, someone else in my place would've used them better," she said.

Sweet-spot: Power-hitting is Sobhana's forte. K.R. DEEPAK

Today's match

Colombo, 3 p.m.

H2H IN ODIs
Played: 25
South Africa 16 | Sri Lanka 6
No Result 3

IN WORLD CUPS
Played: 6
South Africa 4 | Sri Lanka 2

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

"A player who's travelling but not getting matches isn't gaining real experience. Her batting positions – from No. 3 to No. 7 – also mean she rarely bats in relaxed situations. Constant failures in those moments can take a mental toll," her coach Fatema Tuz Jahara explained.

Sobhana, who represents Mohammedan Sporting Club in the Dhaka Women's Premier League, began playing with boys in her neighbourhood. With support from her family, especially her cousin Aleef and two uncles, her cricket ambitions gained early momentum.

"I remember Pinki di (Fargana Hoque) giving me 500 taka after a good knock, saying I'd go far. Those DPL performances earned me my senior team call-up," she remembered.

Since her DPL days, Jahara says, Sobhana has expanded her range of strokes. Her power-hitting was always an asset, and it continues to help her clear the ropes.

Point of no return: Bangladesh skipper Sultana is stumped by Healy off King's bowling. K.R. DEEPAK

I probably didn't expect to get that much spin: King

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

Two wickets, four maidens and extracting maximum turn from a flat surface to finish with an economy rate of 1.80 – Alana King put in a star turn with the ball to help restrict Bangladesh to a below-par total, one that Australia chased down with ease on Thursday night.

Speaking after the defending champion sealed its spot in the semifinals, King admitted that she was surprised by how the pitch behaved.

"I probably didn't expect to get that much spin, but once you do, it's just adjusting your plans, ever so slightly," she said.

King also shed light on the Aussies' plan to stifle an already underperforming Bangladeshi batting unit.

" We wanted to be really disciplined in the length and force them to play a shot that they're not comfortable with. We know that Bangladesh are quite good against spin, they play quite square of the wicket, so it was about just challenging them on the front foot," she explained.

The 29-year-old also stated that Australia, after an uncharacteristically sloppy fielding performance, will need to do better ahead of clashes with England and South Africa.

Sri Lanka meets Proteas, needs a win to stay afloat

Kavita Menon
COLOMBO

The numbers suggest South Africa holds a clear advantage heading into Friday's Women's ODI World Cup clash against Sri Lanka, leading the head-to-head 16-6.

But the recent record tells a different story. Of the last five encounters, both sides have won two each, with one washout. The last two meetings – both at the R. Premadasa Stadium here – saw the Proteas and the Lankans trade commanding victories.

With stakes higher now, the home side will be hoping for kinder weather in its fifth league game, still chasing an elusive first win. Chamari Athapaththu's team had a promising outing with the bat against New Zealand before rain cut short the contest.

The plan in the Sri Lankan dressing room was clear: build steadily and bat deep to post a competitive total. However, against a relentless South African unit, Sri Lanka will need to go a step further.

The Proteas have found the perfect finisher in Nadine de Klerk, whose lower-order fireworks have complemented Chloe Tryon's crucial contributions against India and Bangladesh. The ability to thrive under pressure is yet another strength the team can now count among its many assets.

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Australia (Q)	5	4	0	1	9	1.818
England	4	3	0	1	7	1.864
South Africa	4	3	1	0	6	-0.618
India	4	2	2	0	4	0.682
New Zealand	4	1	2	1	3	-0.245
Bangladesh	5	1	4	0	2	-0.676
Sri Lanka	4	0	2	2	2	-1.526
Pakistan	4	0	3	1	1	-1.887

Q: Qualified

Nadine de Klerk. K.R. DEEPAK

Captain Laura Wolvaardt, despite patchy form, will draw confidence from her staggering average of 91 against Sri Lanka, while the hit-and-miss Tazmin Brits will be eager to rediscover her rhythm.

For the South African bowlers, removing skipper Chamari early will be the top priority.

Her unbeaten 195 in 2024 – at the heart of the previous record ODI chase of 302 – still looms large. Yet, Sri Lanka's improving top-order and the threat of Nilakshika Silva add further intrigue.

Above all, both teams will be praying for clear skies – and the chance to battle it out over a full 50 overs for crucial points.

Kohli, Rohit sweat it out during team's training in Perth

Press Trust of India
PERTH

Senior stars Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma hit the ground running soon after their arrival here and spent a considerable time in the nets during the Indian team's first training session ahead of the ODI series against Australia beginning here on Sunday.

Both batted for close to 30 minutes in the nets.

Their participation in the 2027 World Cup is also not a given with a lot depending on their form and fitness at the time.

The team also has a training session lined up on Friday and Saturday.

Apart from Kohli, Rohit and Gill, the others to land here after a delayed flight were K.L. Rahul, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, and Nitish Kumar Reddy along with some members of the support staff. Head coach Gambhir, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel and the rest of the support staff joined them later in the day on Wednesday.

The series will begin here on Sunday before moving to Adelaide (Oct. 23), and Sydney (Oct. 25). It will be followed by a five-match T20 International series starting on Oct. 29.

Ready to rock: Gill and Kohli en route Australia.
INSTAGRAM@SHUBMANGILL

Smriti Mandhana. K.R. DEEPAK

Abhishek, Smriti bag ICC's Player-of-the-Month awards

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

India openers Abhishek Sharma and Smriti Mandhana on Thursday won the ICC Player-of-the-Month awards for September following their superlative performance in the Asia Cup and women's ODI series against Australia respectively.

Abhishek accumulated 314 runs in seven matches during the period at an average of 44.85 and a stunning strike-rate of 200.

Smriti was outstanding in the three-match series at home, scoring 58, 117 and 125. However, Australia won the series 2-1.

INBRIEF

LSG brings in Williamson as strategic advisor

New Zealand batting stalwart Kane Williamson has joined Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) as a strategic advisor ahead of the IPL's next edition. LSG owner Sanjiv Goenka confirmed Williamson's appointment with a post on *X* on Thursday. Williamson has been associated with LSG, particularly its Durban team, in the SA20 league.

Real Kashmir withdraws from Super Cup

I-League team Real Kashmir FC has withdrawn from the upcoming Super Cup due to a delay in procuring visas for its foreign players, the club said on Thursday. The Snow Leopards have been replaced by Dempo FC for the tournament that is scheduled to begin in Goa from October 25.

Nepal and Oman make it to T20 World Cup

Nepal and Oman secured their berths in next year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup after guaranteeing top-three finishes in the Asia/ East Asia-Pacific Qualifier ahead of their Super Six clash on Wednesday. With the UAE defeating Samoa, Oman and Nepal's progression to the 2026 event was confirmed irrespective of the result of their clash in which Nepal won by 38 runs. Five of the first six matches in the Super Six stage went to the final over with the Nepalis prevailing in two nail-biters to book their tickets.

10 ISL clubs slam AIFF for delay in tender process

Ten Indian Super League (ISL) clubs on Thursday termed the delay in the tender process pertaining to the selection of a new commercial partner of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) as a "breach of trust" and demanded immediate clarity on the matter. The AIFF had agreed to complete the process by October 15, so that new league season can thereafter commence in December. With the deadline missed, the 10 clubs – Chennaiyin, Punjab, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Goa, NorthEast United, Kerala Balsters, Odisha, Jamshedpur and Mumbai City – slammed the AIFF for its lack of accountability and transparency.

Australian swimming star Titmus calls it quits at 25

Four-time Olympic gold medallist Ariarne Titmus announced her immediate retirement from swimming on Thursday, calling it a "really tough'' decision. The 25-year-old Australian had been on an extended break since Paris Olympics but had previously said she planned to return for the 2028 Los Angeles Games.

Indonesia parts ways with Patrick Kluivert

Patrick Kluivert's stint as Indonesia coach is over after they "mutually" agreed to part ways on Thursday following a failed bid to reach the World Cup. Indonesia's hopes of qualifying for the tournament in North America next year ended with defeats to Iraq and Saudi Arabia in the past week. The 49-year-old Netherlands and Barcelona great, who was only appointed in January, was in charge for just eight matches. He won three of his games in charge, losing four and drawing one.

LIVE TELECAST

Women's ODI World Cup: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.
PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)
LaLiga: FanCode, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)
Formula One: United States GP (Sprint Shootout), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 3 a.m. (Saturday)

Harvik-Chirag century stand drives Saurashtra's strong reply

Displaying grit and elegant stroke play, the openers tackle the Karnataka bowling with aplomb; Jadeja impresses for the hosts with a seven-wkt. haul

Digging in: Chirag showed intent in his patient knock. VIJAY SONEJI

RANJI TROPHY

Tarun Shastry
RAJKOT

On a sweltering day, Saurashtra openers Harvik Desai (41, 104b, 2x4, 1x6) and Chirag Jani (90, 148b, 11x4, 1x6) raised the temperature further with a 140-run partnership that lit up the afternoon on day two of their Ranji Trophy Group-B clash against Karnataka at Niranjan Shah Stadium here on Thursday.

The duo, displaying a blend of grit and elegant stroke play, wrested control of the game with a display that screamed intent.

After the visitor was bowled out for 372 in its first innings, Harvik and Chirag began the home side's response in positive fashion, taking full advantage of the benign surface and humid conditions, which offered little assistance to the bowlers. The pair effortlessly found the fence and settled into a good rhythm.

Chirag, the more aggressive of the two, showcased an impressive range of strokes – fluent drives off both front and back foot, and sharp square cuts – to keep the scoreboard ticking and sustaining the pressure on the bowlers.

Quick strikes

However, Karnataka clawed its way back with four quick wickets, courtesy its spinners. Offie Mohsin Khan provided the much-needed breakthrough, trapping Harvik plumb in front. Shreyas Gopal then took charge, dismissing the well-set Chirag, and later sending back Jay Gohel (who had come in as a substitute for Tarang Gohel, ruled out after injuring his fingers) and Ansh Gosai, caught at forward short-leg.

Earlier, Karnataka's overnight batters R. Smaran and Shreyas, in pursuit of quick runs, fell in quick succession – the former becoming left-arm spinner Dharmendra Jadeja's fifth scalp and the latter to Jaydev Unadkat, the skipper's only success.

However, a resilient 47-run stand for the final wicket between Shikhar Shetty and Abhilash Shetty lifted Karnataka to a competitive total, despite Jadeja's seven-wicket haul.

With the match finely poised, an exciting third day awaits.

The scores:
Karnataka — 1st innings: S.J. Nikin Jose c Ansh b Jadeja 12, Mayank Agarwal c Chetan b Jadeja 2, Devdutt Padikkal b Jadeja 96, Karun Nair lbw b Jadeja 73, R. Smaran c Ansh b Jadeja 77, K.L. Shrijith c Harvik b Yuvrajsinh 5, Shreyas Gopal c Ansh b Unadkat 56, M. Venkatesh c Ansh b Jadeja 0, Shikhar Shetty c Unadkat b Samar 41, Mohsin Khan c Ansh b Jadeja 1, Abhilash Shetty (not out) 2; Extras (nb-1, b-5, lb-1): 7; Total (in 117.3 overs): 372.
Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-26, 3-172, 4-195, 5-214, 6-324, 7-324, 8-324, 9-325.
Saurashtra bowling: Unadkat 20-3-55-1, Chetan 15-3-29-0, Jadeja 42-9-124-7, Chirag 3-1-5-0, Prerak 3-1-14-0, Yuvrajsinh 23-3-90-1, Samar 11.3-0-49-1.
Saurashtra — 1st innings: Harvik Desai lbw b Mohsin 41, Chirag Jani b Shreyas 90, Jay Gohel c & b Shreyas 3, Arpit Vasavada (batting) 12, Ansh Gosai c Smaran b Shreyas 19, Prerak Mankad (batting) 20; Extras (b-2, lb-8, pen-5): 15; Total (for four wkts. in 60 overs): 200.
Fall of wickets: 1-140, 2-148, 3-151, 4-171.
Karnataka bowling: Abhilash 7-3-14-0, Venkatesh 7-2-24-0, Shikhar 15-2-58-0, Shreyas 17-2-51-3, Mohsin 14-0-38-1.

RANJI SCORES - ROUND 1 (DAY 2)

Elite:
Group A: At Kanpur: Andhra 470 in 143 overs (K.S. Bharat 142, Shaik Rasheed 136, Vipraj Nigam 4/136) vs Uttar Pradesh 73/1 in 29 overs.
Coimbatore: Jharkhand 419 in 132.1 overs (Sharandeep Singh 48, Ishan Kishan 173, Sahil Raj 77, Gurjapneet Singh 4/71) vs Tamil Nadu 18/5 in 11 overs.
Cuttack: Odisha 271 in 116.1 overs (Subhranshu Senapati 79, Rajesh Dhuper 94, Atit Sheth 4/67) vs Baroda 127/2 in 61 overs (Shivalik Sharma 75 batting).
Bengaluru: Vidarbha 463 in 130.2 overs (Aman Mokhade 183, Dhruv Shorey 64, Yash Rathod 71, Akshay Wadkar 44, Rongsen Jonathan 4/98) vs Nagaland 81/3 in 41 overs.
Group B: Rajkot: Karnataka 372 in 117.3 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 96, Karun Nair 73, R. Smaran 77, Shreyas Gopal 56, Shikhar Shetty 41, Dharmendra Jadeja 7/124) vs Saurashtra 200/4 in 60 overs (Harvik Desai 41, Chirag Jani 90).
Thiruvananthapuram: Maharashtra 239 in 84.1 overs (Ruturaj Gaikwad 91, Jalaj Saxena 49, M.D. Nidheesh 5/49) vs Kerala 35/3 in 10.4 overs.

Dogra... 10,000 runs, 32 centuries and counting. IMRAN NISSAR

Porvorim: Goa 566 in 160.4 overs (Suyash Prabhudessai 47, Abhinav Tejrana 205, Lalit Yadav 213, Vishu Kashyap 7/173) vs Chandigarh 34/1 in eight overs.
Indore: Punjab 232 vs Madhya Pradesh 305/6 in 93 overs (Himanshu Mantri 40, Shubham Sharma 41, Rajat Patidar 107 batting, Venkatesh Iyer 73).
Group C: Surat: Haryana 171 & 201/9 in 65 overs (Parth Vats 106 batting, Himanshu Sangwan 4/31) vs Railways 128 in 49.1 overs (Pratham Singh 50, Sumit Kumar 5/16).
Kolkata: Uttarakhand 213 vs Bengal 274/6 in 92.5 overs (Sudip Chatterjee 98, Sumanta Gupta 82 batting, Devendra Singh Bora 4/65).
Ahmedabad: Assam 310 in 132.4 overs (Pradyun Saikia 70, Riyan Parag 40, Sibsankar Roy 113) vs Gujarat 166/0 in 44 overs (Abhishek Desai 80 batting, Aarya Desai 79 batting).
Delhi: Services 359 in 133.3 overs (Shivam Kumar 72, Ravi Chauhan 50, Nakul Sharma 96, Pulkit Narang 69, Swapnil Singh 5/104, Parvez Sultan 4/71) vs Tripura 56/4 in 34 overs.
Group D: Hyderabad: Delhi 529/4 decl. in 151 overs (Sanat Sangwan 211 n.o., Ayush Badoni 53, Ayush Doseja 209) vs Hyderabad 77/1 in 17 overs.
Rajsamand: Chhattisgarh 332 in 101.3 overs (Ashutosh Singh 44, Ajay Mandal 144, Aditya Sarwate 43, Vashudev Bareth 59) vs Rajasthan 215/4 in 70 overs (Abhijeet Tomar 49, Deepak Hooda 101 batting).
Srinagar: Mumbai 386 in 101.4 overs (Siddhesh Lad 116, Sarfaraz Khan 42, Shams Mulani 91, Yudhvir Singh 5/96) vs Jammu & Kashmir 273/7 in 63 overs (Paras Dogra 112 batting, Abdul Samad 44, Abid Mushtaq 40).
Puducherry: Himachal Pradesh 305 in 107.3 overs (Ekant Sen 50, Mayank Dagar 83, Aryaman Singh 56 n.o., Sagar Udeshi 7/88) vs Pondicherry 96/8 in 31 overs (Aman Khan 41).
Plate:
Patna: Arunachal Pradesh 105 & 94/3 in 25 overs vs Bihar 542/9 decl. in 116.3 overs (Arnav Kishor 52, Ayush Loharuka 226, Sakibul Gani 59, Bipin Saurabh 52, Sachin Kumar 75).
Rangpo: Sikkim 308 in 106.5 overs (Gurinder Singh 83, Kranthi Kumar 75, Bishworjit Konthoujam 4/69) vs Manipur 189/4 in 71 overs (Kangabam Priyojit 68 batting, Pheiroijam Jotin 41 batting).
Shillong: Meghalaya vs Mizoram (no play).

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Karnataka continues its winning streak

Karnataka's fine run in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy continued as it beat Odisha by three wickets in Gwalior.
The scores: Odisha 115/4 in 20 overs (Sarita Meher 34, Sushree Dibyadarshini 46) lost to Karnataka 118/7 in 19.4 overs (Niki Prasad 32, Prathyoosha Kumar 37 n.o.).

Anvay, Sidharth help in Karnataka's chase

Anvay Dravid (82 n.o.) and Sidharth Akhil (75) helped Karnataka chase down a 236-run target with six wickets remaining against Himachal Pradesh in the Vinoo Mankad (U-19) Trophy in Dehradun.
The scores: Himachal Pradesh 235/5 in 50 overs (Arpit Singh 42, Aditya S. Kataria 56 n.o., Kabir 31) lost to Karnataka 236/4 in 45.5 overs (Anvay Dravid 82 n.o., Sidharth Akhil 75).

Roots blanks Bharat Bengaluru

Roots FC beat Bharat Bengaluru 2-0 in the KSFA Super Division League Championship in Bengaluru on Thursday.
The results: HAL FC 2 (Mohammed 19, Arshad 49) bt MFAR Students Union FC 1 (Ameen Khanzeer 59); Roots FC 2 (G. Suresh 41, Musub Bin Yakoon 88) bt Bharat Bengaluru FC 0.

Shivakumarayya stars with a brace

Shivakumarayya scored a brace as DYES-A beat SAI, STC 2-1 in the Hockey Karnataka League Championship in Bengaluru on Thursday.
The results: DYES-A 2 (Shivakumarayya V. Pujar 54, 59) bt SAI, STC 1 (D.R. Pavan 9); SWR, Hubballi 3 (Pavan Madivalar 10, M.K. Chethan 23, C.S. Shamanth 34) bt DYES-B 2 (Y.M. Pranam Gowda 24, H.R. Harsha 47).

Young group will carry Indian TT to greater heights: Sharath

Learning process: Sharath acknowledged the Asian meet was an 'invaulable experience' for the men's team. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Amol Karhadkar
BHUBANESWAR

A. Sharath Kamal, the table tennis stalwart, admitted that India finishing without a medal at the 28th Asian Table Tennis Team Championship was a bitter pill to swallow but was confident that the Gen Next will carry forward his legacy.

"Yes, they could have achieved a bit more, but this was an invaluable experience for our men's team. Competing under such high expectations is never easy, yet they showed great spirit and potential," Sharath, the Brand Ambassador for the tournament that returned to India after 16 years, told *The Hindu*. "Overall, Indian table tennis is moving in the right direction, and I truly believe this young group will carry the sport to greater heights in the years to come."

Sharath was an integral member of India's men's team that entered the tournament having won a bronze medal in each of the last three continental championships. Even the women's team led by Manika Batra had pulled off a bronze medal at the 2024 edition in Astana, Kazakhstan.

The men's team – with only captain Manav Thakkar having previously represented India in a senior team championship – finished sixth after losing the quarterfinal to eventual silver medallist Hong Kong, the women's team went down in the last eight against Singapore and lost both the playoffs to finish eighth.

"For the women too, Sreeja's absence was certainly felt, but the team fought hard and gained valuable exposure that will help them grow stronger," said Sharath, who retired in March after an illustrious career spanning over two decades.

Magnetic favoured for Governor's Cup

RACING

MYSURU: Magnetic, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Governor's Cup (2,000m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Friday (Oct 17). False rails (width about 5.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 LALITHAMAHAL PLATE (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Immortal Beauty (5) Suraj 62.5, 2. Dalhousie (4) Akash Agarwal 61.5, 3. Fashionista (2) Pavan 61.5, 4. Gleam Bell (3) J. Paswan 61, 5. Striking Eyes (1) Suhas K 58.5, 6. Meadow Flower (9) B. Dharshan 57, 7. Miracle Honey (8) Ayaz Khan 57, 8. D Golden Cup (7) Abhishek Mhatre 53 and 9. Bourbon Bay (6) Shreyas S 52.

1. IMMORTAL BEAUTY, 2. STRIKING EYES, 3. FASHIONISTA

2 BVL-LADIES CIRCLE INDIA CUP (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2-30: 1. Arianne (4) Aleemuddin 62.5, 2. Bold And Beautiful (3) Salman Khan 62.5, 3. Sian (5) Abhishek Mhatre 62.5, 4. Jannat (11) Vinod Shinde 61, 5. Quick Witted (10) Ankit Pal 61, 6. Eiffel Tower (1) Pavan 59.5, 7. Seductive (2) S. Imran 59, 8. Pearl Of Mysore (6) Sai Kiran 58, 9. Alluring Beauty (8) Antony 54.5, 10. Basic Instinct (7) Shyam K 54.5, 11. Dark Chocolate (12) Ayaz Khan 51 and 12. City Of Hustle (9) Hindu S 50.5.

1. ALLURING BEAUTY, 2. JANNAT, 3. PEARL OF MYSORE

3 ALEKONA TROPHY (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. D Roman Power (2) Salman Khan 60, 2. Star Honour (10) Ganesh Shingade 59.5, 3. Selma (6) Abhishek Mhatre 57, 4. Star Studded (1) Suraj 55.5, 5. Tigerking (9) H. Rahul 55.5, 6. Breeze Bluster (4) R. Girish 54.5, 7. Star Symphony (5) A. Hangal 54.5, 8. Striking Viking (7) Antony 54.5, 9. Purple Martini (8) Rajesh K 53.5 and 10. Count Basie (3) Angad 53.

1. STAR STUDDED, 2. STAR SYMPHONY, 3. COUNT BASIE

4 K. THAMMANNA GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Drisana (4) A. Baandal 60, 2. Falcon Fury (7) S. Imran 59.5, 3. Natural Warrior (8) Ankit Pal 58, 4. Creative Girl (1) Faiz 57, 5. Like My Child (2) Sai Kiran 56, 6. To Hot To Touch (5) Suhas K 55, 7. Beautiful Bloom (3) Shreyas S 54.5 and 8. Instructor (6) H. Rahul 53.5.

1. DRISANA, 2. BEAUTIFUL BLOOM, 3. CREATIVE GIRL

5 GOVERNOR'S CUP (2,000m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Magnetic (2) Trevor 60, 2. Mescalito (3) Shreyas S 58.5, 3. Saigon (4) I. Chisty 58.5, 4. Sea The Sun (5) Sai Kiran 58.5 and 5. Freedom Touch (1) Ashhad Asbar 57.

1. MAGNETIC, 2. MESCALITO

6 A.R. SUBRAMANYA RAJ URS MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 & above, 4-30: 1. Gold Kite (5) I. Chisty 60, 2. Dun It Again (4) Vinod Shinde 58.5, 3. Absolutechallenger (8) Prabhu K 58, 4. Natural Gold (3) Ankit Pal 55.5, 5. Shershaan (10) Gautam Raj 55.5, 6. Brave Trooper (9) Md. Imran Ashraf 54.5, 7. Serrano (7) Sai Kiran 54.5, 8. Winter Agenda (6) Antony 54.5, 9. Grizzly (1) Afsar Khan 54 and 10. Nevada Gold (2) H. Rahul 53.5.

1. WINTER AGENDA, 2. GRIZZLY, 3. GOLD KITE

7 BVL-ROUND TABLE INDIA CUP (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. D Fronx (1) Salman Khan 60, 2. El Alamein (9) Pavan 60, 3. The Grey Geranium (2) Afsar Khan 58.5, 4. Castaneda (12) M. Prabhakaran 57, 5. Eco System (11) Akash Agarwal 57, 6. Chinky Pinky (7) Aleemuddin 54, 7. Gimme (10) A. Baandal 54, 8. Break Away (5) Faiz 53, 9. Infinite Spirit (8) Vinod Shinde 53, 10. Lex Luthor (6) S. Imran 53, 11. Maduva Thalaivi (3) H. Rahul 53 and 12. Princess Jasmine (4) Suhas K 50.5.

1. CHINKY PINKY, 2. EL ALAMEIN, 3. THE GREY GERANIUM

Day's best: MAGNETIC

Double: STAR STUDDED-WINTER AGENDA

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Mini Jkt: 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Meropi obliges in the feature event

MYSURU: Aashay Doctor-trained Meropi (Trevor up) won the Mysore Dasara Sprint Championship (1,200m), the chief event of the races held here on Thursday (Oct 16).

The winner is owned by Mrs. Menaka Gupta, Mrs. Rina Mahindra, Mr. Salomone N Benveniste, Mr. Vishal Doctor, Mr. Kamal J Doctor rep. M/s. Deciding Factor LLP, Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra, Mr. Hemang D. Doctor, Mr. Viral DevKumar Doctor & M/s. Cherie Sports Pvt. Ltd.

THE RESULTS:

1. LOKAPAVANI PLATE (1,400M): SHE RULES (Laxman S) 1, Shock And Awe (Darshan) 2, Turkoman (Mukesh K) 3 and Southernaristocrat (Faiz) 4. Not run: Exemplary Blues. 3-1/4, 1-1/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 27.47s. ₹33 (w), 14, 14 and 10 (p), SHP: 49, THP: 31, FP: 208, Q: 139, Trinella: 437/124, Exacta: 408/166. Favourite: Southernaristocrat.
Owner: Mr. Kersi H Vachha. Trainer: Darius Byramji.

2. ORIGINAL VEL RACING TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,200M): SEA OF ADVENTURE (Sai Kiran) 1, Serai (Antony) 2, Sheeba (Pavan) 3 and Choice (Faiz) 4. 3, 1-1/2 and 1/2. 1m, 13.84s. ₹22 (w), 10, 11 and 23 (p), SHP: 28, THP: 32, FP: 36, Q: 13, Trinella: 127/143, Exacta: 186/66. Favourite: Serai.
Owner: Mrs. Namratha B Salvi. Trainer: Bipin V. Salvi.

3. URS KAR TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400M): TRUE PUNCH (Antony) 1, Little Minister (S. Imran) 2, Sir Calculus (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Ladylion (R. Pradeep) 4. 4, 1-3/4 and 1/2. 1m, 26.74s. ₹18 (w), 10, 13 and 18 (p), SHP: 29, THP: 45, FP: 37, Q: 26, Trinella: 189/170, Exacta: 304/83. Favourite: Little Minister.
Owner: Mr. Anil Saraf. Trainer: M. Rajendra Singh.

4. H.H. SRI CHAMARAJA WADIYAR MEMORIAL CUP (1,400M): ISABELLE (Pavan) 1, Polar Wind (Faiz) 2, My Life My Rules (I. Chisty) 3 and Planet Super (S. Mubarak) 4. Not run: Phoenix Gold, Sienna Princess and She's So Beautiful. Hd, 1 and 1. 1m, 27.76s. ₹28 (w), 10, 15 and 11 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 36, FP: 237, Q: 132, Trinella: 225/62, Exacta: 4,433. Favourite: My Life My Rules.
Owner: Mr. P.T. Girish. Trainer: Vinesh V. Naik.

5. MYSORE DASARA SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP (1,200M): MEROPI (Trevor) 1, Imperial Blue (Arvind K) 2, Pure For Sure (I. Chisty) 3 and Aldgate (Antony) 4. 3-1/4, 1 and Shd. 1m, 11.72s. ₹12 (w), 10 and 19 (p), SHP: 24, THP: 67, FP: 26, Q: 21, Trinella: 206/138, Exacta: 192/51. Favourite: Meropi.
Owners: Mrs. Menaka Gupta, Mrs. Rina Mahindra, Mr. Salomone N Benveniste, Mr. Vishal Doctor, Mr. Kamal J Doctor rep. M/s. Deciding Factor LLP, Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra, Mr. Hemang D. Doctor, Mr. Viral DevKumar Doctor & M/s. Cherie Sports Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Aashay Doctor.

6. ORIGINAL VEL RACING TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,200M): NATURAL TORNADO (Ankit Pal) 1, Court Jester (Faiz) 2, Aurele (Abhishek Mhatre) 3 and Kenna (Salman Khan) 4. 1-1/2, 1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 12.95s. ₹100 (w), 11, 14 and 57 (p), SHP: 26, THP: 77, FP: 330, Q: 142, Trinella: 1,530/937, Exacta: 22,091 (carried over). Favourite: O Manchali.
Owner: Mr. Raja Malhotra. Trainer: Mansoor Khan.

7. URS KAR TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,400M): SILICON STAR (Antony) 1, Mind Games (Pavan) 2, Mystikos (Trevor) 3 and Sherpa (A. Baandal) 4. 5-1/4, 3/4 and 5-1/4. 1m, 24.34s. ₹27 (w), 15, 21 and 10 (p), SHP: 121, THP: 37, FP: 282, Q: 332, Trinella: 800/186, Exacta: 18,287 (carried over)/7,837. Favourite: Mystikos.
Owner: Mr. K. Dinesh Kumar. Trainer: V. Lokanath.

Jackpot: ₹4,041 (four tkts.); Runner-up: 429 (16 tkts.); Mini Jackpot: 671 (carried over); Treble (i): 642 (one tkt.); (ii): 148 (seven tkts.).

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ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ

ಕೌಶಲ್ಯಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ, ಉದ್ಯಮಶೀಲತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಹಾಗೂ **ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು**
ಇವರ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತಾಶ್ರಯದಲ್ಲಿ

ಯುವ ಸಮೃದ್ಧಿ ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳ

17 ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 2025

ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ
ಸಂಜೆ 5 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

ಮಹಾರಾಜ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ
ಮೈದಾನ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಯುವ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಭಾಗ್ಯ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನವ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ವಿದ್ಯಾವಂತ ನಿರುದ್ಯೋಗಿ ಯುವ ಜನತೆಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳು, ಸೇವಾ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಉದ್ಯಮಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವುದು. ನಿರುದ್ಯೋಗ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಯ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪ ಮತ್ತು ಯುವಜನತೆಯ ಉಜ್ವಲ ಭವಿಷ್ಯ ಈ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳದ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಉದ್ದೇಶ.

- ರಾಜ್ಯದ **ಯಾವುದೇ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.**
- ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳದ **ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲೇ ನೇರ ನೋಂದಣಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.**
- ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ **ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಸಹ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.**
- **ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳ:** ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಾತರು ನೋಂದಣಿಯಿಂದ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಗೊಂಡು ಸಂದರ್ಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
- ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು **ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ದರ ಅಥವಾ ಶುಲ್ಕವು ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.**
- 200 ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಾತರು ಉದ್ಯೋಗಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿ.

ಯುವನಿಧಿ
ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಒಟ್ಟು
2,55,033
ಯುವಜನರಿಗೆ
₹622 ಕೋಟಿ
ಮೊತ್ತದ ಯುವನಿಧಿ ನಿರುದ್ಯೋಗ ಭತ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ, ಕೌಶಲ್ಯಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ, ಉದ್ಯಮಶೀಲತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಸಚಿವರಾದ **ಡಾ. ಶರಣಪ್ರಕಾಶ ಆರ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್** ಅವರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಉಸ್ತುವಾರಿ ಸಚಿವರಾದ **ಡಾ. ಹೆಚ್.ಸಿ ಮಹದೇವಪ್ಪ** ಅವರು ಮತ್ತು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ **ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಶಿವಕಾಂತಮ್ಮ ನಾಯಕ** ಅವರು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳ ಆಯೋಜನೆಯ ಕುರಿತು ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿರುವುದು

ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಮೇಳದ ನೇರ ಲಾಭಗಳು (Direct Benefits)

- ತಕ್ಷಣದ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳು:
- ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು **ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲೇ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಸಂದರ್ಶನ** ನಡೆಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ **ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ** ಮಾಡಬಹುದು.
- ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಪದವಿ ಪಡೆದವರು ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಭವಿಗಳು **ಎರಡೂ ಹಂತದ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.**
- ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ **ಹಲವು ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೇ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಹಾಕಿ**, ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗುವ ಅವಕಾಶ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು **ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ** ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತದೆ

ಪರೋಕ್ಷ ಲಾಭಗಳು (Indirect Benefits)

- **ವೃತ್ತಿ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ:** ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವೃತ್ತಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಗಳು, ತರಬೇತಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಮಾಣಪತ್ರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತದೆ.
- **ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದ ಅವಕಾಶ (Networking):** ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳು ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಾತರು (Employers), ಪ್ರಾಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಮ್ಯಾನೇಜರ್‌ಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ತಜ್ಞರೊಂದಿಗೆ ನೇರ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಸಾಧಿಸಬಹುದು.
- **ವೃತ್ತಿ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ:** ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಯಾವ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಇದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿದು ತರಬೇತಿ ಅಥವಾ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.
- **ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಹೊಂದಾಣಿಕೆ (Skill Matching):** ಯಾವ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯಗಳು ಬೇಡಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇವೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಂಡು, ತಮ್ಮ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅವಕಾಶ.
- **ಕಂಪನಿಗಳ ಪರಿಚಯ:** ವಿವಿಧ ಉದ್ಯಮಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕಂಪನಿಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ, ಅವರ ಕೆಲಸದ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅವಕಾಶ.
- **ಸ್ವ-ವಿವರ (Resume) ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ:**
- ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು **ತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರೊಫೈಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟ್‌ಫೋಲಿಯೊಗಳನ್ನು ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತೋರಿಸಬಹುದು.**
- ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು **ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಅಥವಾ ಭವಿಷ್ಯದ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುತ್ತವೆ.**
- **ಉದ್ಯಮ ಧೋರಣೆಗಳ ಅರಿವು (Industry Trends):** ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಾತರು ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಎರಡೂ ಕೆಲಸದ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯ ಹೊಸ ಧೋರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.
- **ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ವೃದ್ಧಿ:** ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಾತರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂವಹನ ಮಾಡುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಶನ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತವೆ.

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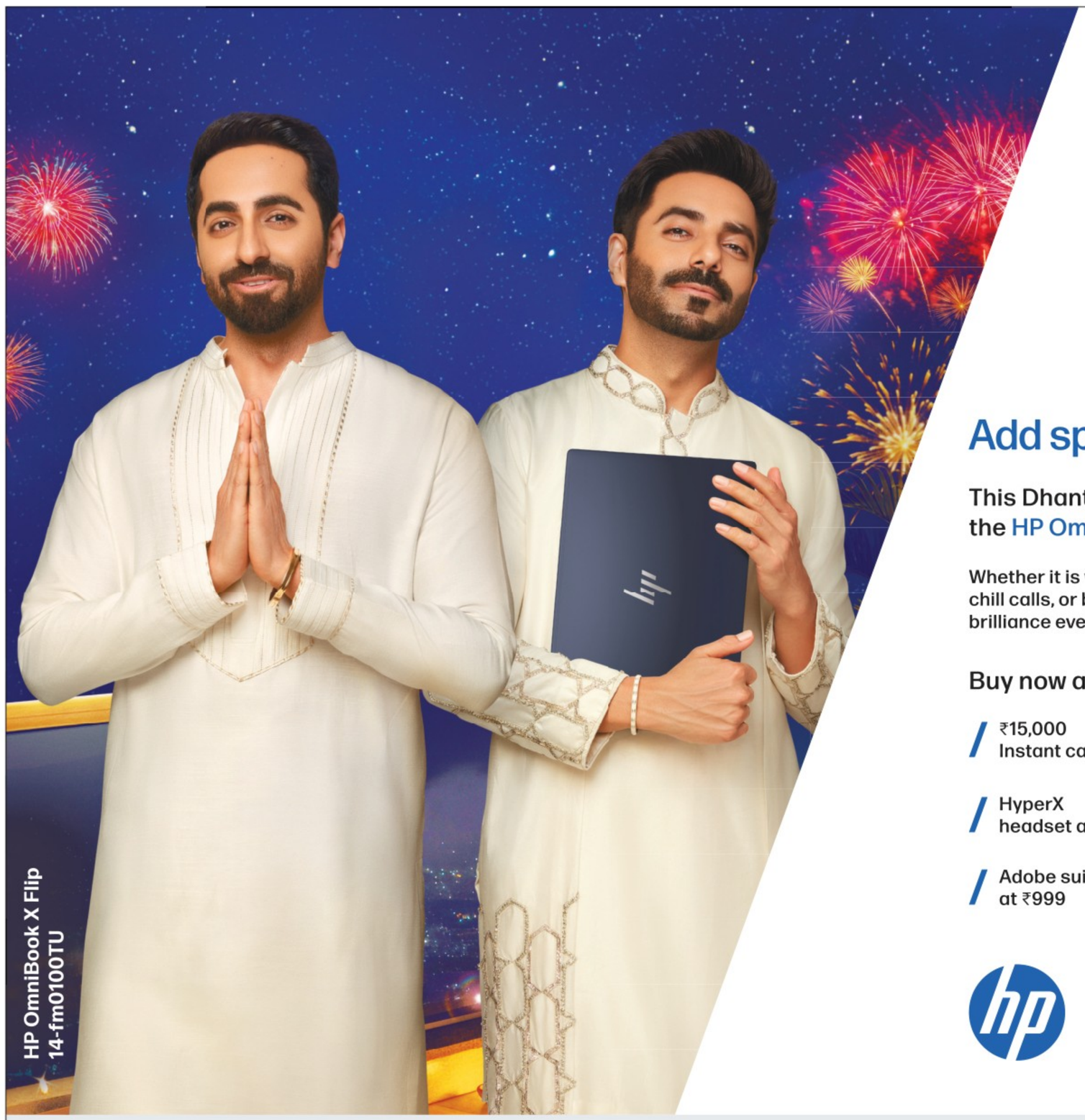
M BG-BGE



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INBRIEF

Indian Overseas Bank Q2 net profit surges 58% to ₹1,226 cr.

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has posted a 57.79% jump in net profit to ₹1,226 crore for the second quarter ended September 30. The bank had posted a net profit of ₹777 crore during the September quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal. Net interest income (NII) increased by ₹521 crore to ₹3,059 crore as on September 30, 2025, as compared with ₹2,538 crore in the same period last year, registering a growth of 20.53% on a year-on-year basis.

LIC stake in Dr. Reddy's past 10%; 1.71 cr. shares acquired

State-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) acquired more than 1.71 crore shares in Dr. Reddy's Laboratories since June taking its stake in the generic drugmaker to more than 10%. One of the largest institutional investors in the country, LIC raised its holding from 8.21% in early June to 10.26% as on October 15, a filing by Dr. Reddy's on Thursday showed. LIC acquired 1,71,40,819 shares translating into an additional 2% stake through market purchase.

Tea exports increased 2.2% between January and August

Tea exports increased marginally by 2.2% during the eight-month period of January-August 2025 at 174.42 million kg as against 170.63 million kg in the year-earlier period. According to Tea Board data, exports from north India during the period stood at 113.14 million kg from 99.14 million kg in the year earlier. From South India, the quantity of exports during the first eight months of 2025 stood at 61.28 million kg as compared with 71.49 million kg during the same period of 2024. PTI

Next formal round of India-EU FTA talks not set, says Agrawal

Issues pertaining to market access, regulatory cooperation, agricultural sensitivities need constant discussion before formal negotiations

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Negotiations on the free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union are facing issues relating to market access, regulatory cooperation and agricultural sensitivities, *The Hindu* has learnt.

Separately, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said that the next formal round of negotiations has not been announced as the nature of these issues are such that they require constant discussion rather than waiting for a formal round.

The 14th and latest round of negotiations was held on October 6-10 in Brussels. Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, and his counterparts in Europe, have regularly reiterated their commitment to completing negotiations on the trade deal by the end of this calendar year.

Talking terms: The Commerce Secretary said both sides will continue to interact with each other to resolve their differences. PTI

"India-EU FTA negotiations are progressing very well," Mr. Agrawal said at a press conference.

"We are in the last leg of negotiations. The last was the most arduous leg of negotiations because the toughest things are decided at the end. We are in that stage of negotiations. The last round saw real progress."

Mr. Agrawal added that the teams from both sides would continue interacting with each other to work out their differences.

"Right now, we have not settled on the next round of official negotiations because we feel there are issues across areas that we need to resolve on a continuous basis," he said.

Indian iron and steel exporters face the highest CBAM levy

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Indian exporters of iron and steel to EU may have to pay about €301 million (approximately ₹3,000 crore) in Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) fees, the highest among all countries exporting similar products to the EU, an analysis by European non-profit think-tank Sandberg has found.

CBAM is a levy that European importers must pay if they buy products from countries whose production emits more carbon dioxide per tonne than equivalent goods manufactured within the EU.

An online calculator developed by Sandberg, made public on Thursday, estimates that Russia will face the next highest CBAM charges (€240 million), followed by Ukraine (€198 million) and China (€194 million).

The analysis further indicates that India's total CBAM liability, covering exports of aluminium and cement in addition to iron and steel, stands at about €330 million, or roughly 1.05% of the value of all traded goods. However, the study also suggests that Indian exporters could earn higher revenues, estimated at €510 million, if they shift to cleaner technologies, resulting in a net cost reduction of around €180 million.

Indian exporters could earn higher revenues if they shift to cleaner technologies.

India has consistently opposed the CBAM, with industry bodies describing it as a "non-tariff barrier".

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said in July that if the EU implemented the CBAM, India would "retaliate with taxes of its own."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,468	1.04
US Dollar	87.96	0.13
Gold	1,31,600	-0.15
Brent oil	61.97	-0.09

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2557.60	24.80
Adani Ports	1479.50	28.80
Apollo Hosp	7833.50	7.50
Asian Paints	2409.70	34.60
Axis Bank	1196.30	26.70
Bajaj Auto	9151.50	153.50
Bajaj Finserv	2090.20	6.10
Bajaj Finance	1065.75	5.85
Bharat Elec	411.80	3.70
Bharti Airtel	1967.40	-1.10
Cipla	1569.40	10.70
Coal India	387.60	3.35
Dr Reddys Lab	1240.20	7.80
Tata Motors CV	260.75	0.00
Eicher Motors	6988.00	93.00
Eternal Ltd.	347.85	-6.50
Grasim Ind	2859.80	43.00
HCL Tech	1515.00	19.30
HDFC Bank	994.35	16.10
HDFC Life	742.85	-18.30
Hindalco	780.10	15.85
Hind Unilever	2561.50	42.50
ICICI Bank	1417.30	18.90
IntGlobeAvi	5881.00	20.50
Infosys	1471.50	-2.90
ITC	405.15	5.25
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	312.10	-0.55
JSW Steel	1172.10	11.30
Kotak Bank	2205.40	55.80
L&T	3861.80	33.10
M&M	3560.80	63.60
Maruti Suzuki	16298.00	86.00
Max Healthcare	1175.30	19.50
NestleIndia	1276.60	55.20
NTPC	341.50	2.25
ONGC	248.35	0.63
PowerGrid Corp	291.85	0.90
Reliance Ind	1398.30	24.00
SBI Life	1835.70	-4.90
State Bank	886.95	0.85
Shriram Finance Ltd.	672.50	-4.65
Sun Pharma	1659.00	3.90
TataConsumerProduct	1149.30	35.10
Tata Motors	396.80	5.95
Tata Steel	174.00	0.76
TCS	2970.70	0.90
Tech Mahindra	1463.80	4.80
Titan	3640.30	91.30
Trent Ltd.	4793.40	69.20
UltraTech Cement	12358.00	47.00
Wipro	253.81	3.60

Ola Electric forays into battery energy storage

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ola Electric on Thursday announced its foray into the battery energy storage system market, a segment that is expected to cross ₹3 lakh crore in value by 2030 from ₹1 lakh crore currently. The EV manufacturer has launched Ola Shakti, its portable battery energy storage system solution for homes, farms, and also businesses.

Commerce Ministry relaxes compliances for exporters

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has initiated a number of ease of doing business compliance measures over the last month to help domestic businesses, while also protecting them from dumping from abroad by launching anti-dumping investigations on at least 15 product lines.

However, the Export Promotion Mission, announced in Budget 2025, is yet to be finalised as several approvals are still pending. Officials are confident of significant headway.

LIC unveils two plans

Life Insurance Corporation of India has introduced two plans, Jan Suraksha and Bima Lakshmi, offering guaranteed additions and financial protection features for diverse customer segments.

Infosys' Q2 net rises 13.2% to ₹7,364 crore, adds 8,203 staff

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Infosys Ltd reported its second quarter net profit rose 13.2% year-on-year to ₹7,364 crore while total revenue climbed 8.6% to ₹44,490 crore.

Revenue in constant currency grew 2.9%. Operating profit rose 8.1% to ₹9,353 crore. The quarter saw large deals worth $3.1 billion of which 67% was from net new clients.

Based on the global market visibility, the firm cut the range of revenue guidance for FY26 to 2% to 3% in constant currency basis as against 1% to 3%. It guided for an operating margin of 20%-22%.

Salil Parekh

Jayesh Sanghrajka CFO said Infosys announced a share buyback worth ₹18,000 crore during the quarter and an interim dividend of ₹23 a share.

CEO and MD Salil Parekh said told the media despite global environment and macro economic factors, deal pipeline was robust. There was net addition of 8,203 people in Q2.

H-1B, near-shoring

On H1-B visa requirements, Mr. Parekh said, the number of employees who required Infosys' immigration certificate in the U.S. was only a "minority." The future would be guided by near-shore operations and localisation.

He also said the company was also seeing growth in the U.S. market.

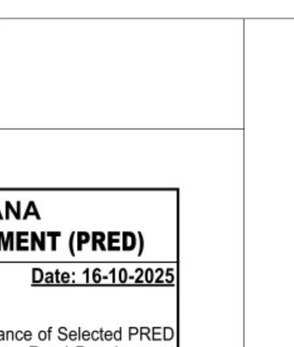
Wipro Q2 net climbs a tad to ₹3,246 crore

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Wipro Ltd. posted Q2 net profit of ₹3,246 crore for September-ended quarter, a marginal growth from ₹3,208 crore reported in the same period a year ago.

Revenue from operations rose to ₹22,697.3 crore, up 1.7% year-on-year. Revenue via information technology (IT) services stood at $2.6 billion, an increase of 0.7% QoQ and a decrease of 2.1% YoY.

The company saw total contracts worth $4.7 billion during the quarter.



Wipro saw total contracts of $4.7 billion during the quarter.

On guidance, Wipro expects revenue from IT services business to be in the range of $2,591 million to $2,644 million translating into to sequential guidance of (-) 0.5% to (+) 1.5% in constant currency terms. It added 2,260 people in Q2.

LTIMindtree Q2 net profit, revenue grow over 10%

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

LTIMindtree posted a net profit of ₹1,381.2 crore for the September-ended quarter, a 10.4% growth over the year-earlier period.

"Our results reflect disciplined execution, depth of client relationships and solid progress in our ongoing transformation," said CEO and MD Venu Lambu.

"We are committed to becoming an AI-centric organisation," he added.

In Q2, LTIMindtree added 2,558 people.

Blue Energy unveils e-heavy duty truck

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Blue Energy Motors (BEM), a green truck manufacturer, introduced its electric heavy-duty truck equipped with battery swapping technology. The vehicle was unveiled by Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis at the firm's 10,000 trucks per annum production facility at Chakan in Pune.

The CM also inaugurated India's first electric corridor from Mumbai-Pune. This corridor is the first step in the plan to electrify all major national highway corridors over the next three years, the firms aid.

The firm said it was signing MoUs for over 10,000 e-trucks.

BEM had signed an MoU with the Maharashtra government to set up a new unit with a capacity of 30,000 trucks at an investment of ₹3,500 crore.

India in active talks for trade pact with U.S., EU, Oman: Goyal

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India has implemented a number of free trade agreements with developed nations and is in active dialogue for such pacts with nations including the U.S., Oman, and the EU, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said.

India has implemented trade pacts with Australia, the UAE and EFTA bloc. It has also signed an agreement with the U.K.

"We have done free trade agreements (FTAs) with many developed countries in the last three years... We are in active dialogue with the U.S., EU, Chile, Peru, New Zealand, and Oman," the Minister told reporters here.

"It clearly shows that India is the favoured and preferred destination both for investment and for bilateral trade," he added.

Pact with Brazil

Mr. Goyal also said with Brazil also, he has discussed expanding preferential trade agreement from its current level so that "we can" in the future penetrate the South American market in a bigger way.

The Indian official team is in Washington now to hold trade talks with U.S. counterparts. The team will be there till October 17. In February, leaders of India and the U.S. asked officials to negotiate a Bilateral Trade Agreement. They fixed a deadline to conclude the first tranche of the pact by the fall (October-November) of 2025.

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क्रमांक / स्वा. / 2025–26 / 17268–274 दिनांक :– 10.10.2025

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Bid for **Budget Announcement 2025-26 Various Missing Link & Nonpatchable works** Sanctioned are invited from interested bidders upto 6:00 PM dt. 28-10-2025 (Tuesday) Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and DIPR department website. The approximate values of the procurement is Rs. **1087.05** Lakhs.

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DIPR/C/15148/2025

Superintending Engineer,
PWD, Circle Bikaner

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PANCHAYATI RAJ ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (PRED)

RFP No.: 02/RFP/HAM/PHASE-I/PRED/2025 Date: 16-10-2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Name of the Work: Construction, Upgradation, Strengthening & Maintenance of Selected PRED Roads in the State of Telangana on Hybrid Annuity Mode under Telangana Road Development Program (Phase-1 Roads)

Name of the State	No. of Construction Packages	No. of Roads	Length in Kms	Approximate Bid Project Cost (Crores)	Construction Period	Maintenance Period
Telangana	17	2162	7449.50	6294.81	30 Months	15 Years

Panchayat Raj Engineering Department (PRED) invites proposals from reputed Concessionaires for the above-mentioned project.

* The complete set of documents can be viewed / downloaded from e-procurement portal of Govt. of Telangana i.e., **https://tender.telangana.gov.in** from **27/10/2025 onwards.**

* For further clarification/ assistance, please visit our website: **https://www.pred.telangana.gov.in** or contact PRED Office at telephone numbers **8712867057, 9666232907.** email id - **tgpredham@gmail.com**

Sd/- **(16-10-2025), Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj Engineering Dept. (PRED), Hyderabad.**

DIPR R.O.No.9321-PP/GL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 16.10.2025

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website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/28/2025 Date : 16.10.2025

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/loan licensees on behalf of Animal Husbandary Department, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of Veterinary Medicines for the year 2025-26.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/AHD-VET/RC/2025/025 dtd.16.10.2025	Veterinary Medicines	47

Schedule of dates

	Date	Time
Last date of online uploading of tenders	03.11.2025	05.00 pm. onwards
Date of technical bid opening	05.11.2025	11.00 am. onwards

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.**

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

ANTANANARIVO

Military takeover in Madagascar was 'not a coup', insists new leader

REUTERS

Colonel Michael Randrianirina on Thursday insisted Madagascar's military takeover was "not a coup" after ousted President Andry Rajoelina fled abroad amid protests. The army seized power following his impeachment. Colonel Randrianirina will be sworn in on Friday, promising elections within two years. AFP

WASHINGTON

Trump confirms CIA action against Venezuela; Maduro criticises move

AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump indicated on Wednesday he had authorised covert CIA action against Venezuela. Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro condemned the U.S. "coup attempts" and ordered military drills after a U.S. strike, deepening tensions over alleged "narco-terrorist" operations. AFP

OSLO

Ex-U.S. embassy guard in Norway convicted of spying for Russia, Iran

REUTERS

A Norwegian court sentenced a 28-year-old former U.S. embassy security guard to three years and seven months for spying for Russia and Iran. He shared embassy floor plans and staff details for 10,000 euros from Russian intelligence and 0.17 bitcoin from Iranian intelligence. He denied the charge of aggravated espionage. AFP

BERLIN

Germany working on plan against Russian 'hybrid' threats, says Merz

AFP

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz on Thursday announced a "comprehensive action plan" to counter Russia's hybrid warfare, including cyberattacks, espionage, and disinformation. Mr. Merz also accused Moscow of trying to destabilise Europe and criticised the Russia-friendly AfD party. AFP

Ceasefire halts deadly fighting on Afghanistan-Pakistan border

The 48-hour ceasefire was aimed at allowing time to 'find a positive solution through constructive dialogue', according to Islamabad; shops reopen in Spin Boldak as residents return home; UN rights chief Turk praises the truce's implementation

Agence France-Presse
SPIN BOLDAK

A ceasefire along the frontier between Afghanistan and Pakistan was holding on Thursday, officials on both sides said, after dozens of troops and civilians were killed in cross-border clashes.

In Spin Boldak, a focal point of recent clashes on the Afghan side, an *AFP* journalist saw shops reopening and residents returning to homes they had fled during the fighting.

The 48-hour ceasefire was aimed at allowing time to "find a positive solution... through constructive dialogue", according to Islamabad. Pakistan is facing a resurgence of attacks against its security forces on its border with Afghanistan, led by the Pakistani Taliban and its affiliates.

Final prayers: Relatives of victims of the cross-border clashes offer prayers during a funeral ceremony in Spin Boldak on Thursday. AFP

Forty civilians were killed and 170 others wounded on Wednesday, according to Spin Boldak's director of public health Karimullah Zubair Agha.

The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) earlier reported at least 18 civilians killed and more than 350 wounded in the violence.

Hundreds of residents and Taliban officials attended the funeral of seven members of the same family in Spin Boldak.

Islamabad accuses Kabul of offering safe haven to militants who plan their frequent assaults from Afghan soil – a charge the Taliban regime denies.

Pakistani officials on the northern and southern border with Afghanistan said on Thursday that "no violence was reported overnight, and the ceasefire remains in effect".

A senior security official in Peshawar said: "Additional paramilitary troops have been deployed to counter potential... militant activity that could jeopardise the ceasefire."

Shortly before the truce was announced, blasts were reported in the capital Kabul and the southern province of Kandahar province, where the Afghan Taliban's shadowy supreme leader lives. At least five people were killed and 35 wounded in Wednesday's explosions in Kabul.

United Nations rights chief Volker Turk welcomed the ceasefire and appealed to "both parties to prevent any further harm to civilians and commit to a lasting ceasefire".

Netanyahu vows to recover remains of Gaza hostages

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday that he was determined to ensure that Hamas hands back the remains of hostages still in Gaza, adding that the fight "is not over yet".

Under a ceasefire agreement spearheaded by U.S. President Donald Trump, Hamas returned the last 20 surviving hostages to Israel, and said it had handed back all the bodies of deceased captives that it could access.

The ceasefire also saw the war, sparked by Hamas's unprecedented October 7, 2023 attack on Israel, grind to a halt after two years of agony for the families of hostages, and bombardment and hunger in Gaza.

Benjamin Netanyahu

The remains of 19 hostages are still unaccounted for, with Hamas saying it would need specialist recovery equipment to retrieve the rest from the ruins of Gaza.

'Fight not over'

At a state ceremony to mark the second anniversary of the October 7 attack, Mr. Netanyahu said Israel was "determined to secure the return of all hostages".

"The fight is not over yet, but one thing is clear – whoever lays a hand on us knows they will pay a very heavy price," he said.

Earlier, an Israeli group campaigning for the return of the hostages demanded that the government delay implementing the next stages of the truce if Hamas fails to return the remaining captives' bodies.

According to Mr. Trump's 20-point plan for Gaza, the next phases of the truce should include the disarming of Hamas, the offer of amnesty to Hamas leaders who decommission their weapons and establishing the governance of post-war Gaza.

Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz on Wednesday threatened to resume fighting if Hamas does not honour the terms of the agreement.

China defends buying Russian oil, slams U.S. for 'unilateral bullying'

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China said on Thursday that its purchases of Russian oil were "legitimate" and decried recent "unilateral bullying" measures by the United States as the trade row between the two countries continues to intensify.

Mr. Trump said on Wednesday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had promised him New Delhi would stop buying Russian oil, and that he would get China to follow suit.

Mr. Trump has accused both China and India of funding the three-year Ukraine war through the purchases, and has also demanded that European allies immediately stop buying oil from Russia.

Asked about Mr. Trump's intention to pressure China, Beijing's Foreign Ministry defended its "normal, legitimate economic, trade, and energy cooperation with countries around the world, including Russia".

Embattled French PM Lecornu survives a vote of no-confidence in Parliament

Press Trust of India
PARIS

French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu survived a vote of no-confidence on Thursday that could have toppled his fragile new government and plunged France deeper into political chaos.

The National Assembly vote clears the way for the embattled Mr. Lecornu to pursue what could be an even greater challenge: getting a 2026 Budget for the European Union's second-largest economy through Parliament's powerful but bitterly divided lower house before the end of the year.

Sebastien Lecornu speaks during a session of questions to the government at The National Assembly on Wednesday. AFP

Mr. Lecornu's survival also spares any immediate need for President Emmanuel Macron to again dissolve the National Assembly and call snap legislative elections, a hazardous option that the French leader had signalled he might take if Mr. Lecornu fell.

The close ally of the French President faced two no-confidence motions filed by Mr. Macron's fiercest opponents – the hard-left France Unbowed party and Marine Le Pen of the far-right National Rally and her allies in Parliament.

The 577-seat chamber voted on the France Unbowed motion first – and it fell short, with 271 lawmakers supporting it. It had needed a majority of 289 votes to succeed. Lawmakers are now voting on Ms. Le Pen's second motion.

Dhaka prosecution demands death penalty for Hasina

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Bangladeshi prosecution lawyers demanded on Thursday that fugitive ex-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receive the death penalty in her trial for crimes against humanity.

Ms. Hasina has defied court orders to return from India, where she left to last year, to face charges of ordering a deadly crackdown in a failed attempt to crush a student-led uprising.

Up to 1,400 people were killed in the clashes between July and August 2024, according to the United Nations.

"We demand the highest punishment for her," chief prosecutor Tajul Islam told presspersons outside court. "For a single murder, one death penalty is the rule. For 1,400 murders, she should be sentenced 1,400 times – but since that is not humanly possible, we demand at least one."

She is being tried in absentia.

Sport

Lowry in lead after flawless opening round

GOLF

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

Shane Lowry's smile did not fade through the first round and the Irishman had reason to be beaming after a bogey-free round that saw him finish with an eight-under 64 for the sole lead after the opening day of the DP World India Championship at the Delhi Golf Club here on Thursday.

Lowry, one of the few overseas golfers in the fray who has actually played at the venue – albeit 15 years back – had eight birdies in his round to finish one shot ahead of Keita Nakajima.

The Japanese also had eight birdies, including one on the notorious par-4 ninth – the toughest hole on the day with 43 bogeys, 58 par scores and just six birdies – but also dropped a shot on the sixth.

Consistent: Lowry reeled off eight birdies on the demanding DGC course. GETTY IMAGES

Casey Jarvis was on six-under 66 while India's Rahil Gangjee was in a three-way tied fourth position with Jorge Campillo and Jannik De Bruyn on 67. World No. 2 Rory McIlroy was further back at 69 for tied 17th.

"Yeah, 64 is a really nice score. It's not that hard if you play out there but if you miss the fairways, it can get really tricky. This type of course suits me. I needed to take advantage of it today and hopefully will continue to do it through the week," said Lowry after the round.

McIlroy, who also hit into the jungle off the fairway on the 16th, admitted it had been tough.

"It's pretty tricky. You're just trying to be as conservative as possible off the tee and then trying to pick off birdies on the par fives and maybe pick up a couple more," admitted the five-time Major champion.

Gangjee tied fourth

Gangjee, a veteran Indian pro, played a safe hand and had an uneventful round with four birdies and a bogey till the 17th hole.

He was three-over and a long way back before sinking an eagle on the 18th to leapfrog to the top. Among the other Indians, Anirban Lahiri was at 70 while Shubhankar Sharma returned a 74.

Leading scores: 64: Shane Lowry (Ire); **65:** Keita Nakajima (Jpn); **66:** Casey Jarvis (RSA); **67:** Jorge Campillo (Esp), Jannik De Bruyn (Ger), Rahil Gangjee (Ind).

Tanvi, Unnati and Gnana Dattu in quarterfinals

BADMINTON

Nihit Sachdeva
GUWAHATI

Tanvi Sharma made a backhand return and stepped forward, only to watch Sun Li Yuan lift the shuttle and send it past the Indian towards the end of the second game.

It was the only moment where the home favourite was caught off-guard in an otherwise clinical 15-8, 15-5 victory in the round of 16 of the World junior badminton championships here on Thursday.

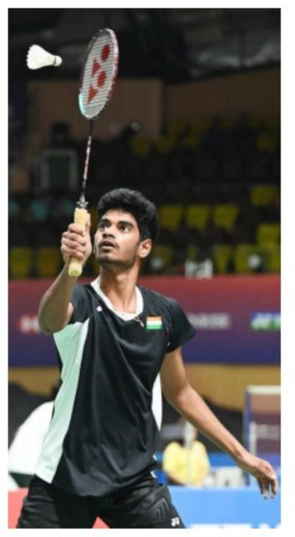
With Unnati Hooda and Tankara Gnana Dattu Talasila in singles, the mixed doubles pair of Bhavya Chhabra and Vishakha Toppo, and the boys' doubles duo of Bhargav Ram Arigela and Viswa Tej Gobburu also progressing, the host nation can confirm as many as five medals by winning Friday's quarterfinals.

Dictating terms

Top seed Tanvi showed no signs of nerves against Sun, a Chinese player who made her debut at the international stage, and dictated the match from first to last point.

She repeatedly pushed Sun to the back of the court before ending the point with a drop shot. Tanvi will hope to make amends for last year's quarterfinal exit when she takes on Japan's Saki Matsumoto.

Unnati overcame a 3-9 deficit in the opener to take down Malaysia's Carine Tee 15-10, 15-7, a player who relied solely on defence and an occasional drop shot.



Gnana Dattu. RITU RAJ KONWAR

However, Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj went down 11-15, 9-15 to Sri Lanka's Ranithma Liyanage in a physical battle lasting 33 minutes.

Gnana Dattu survived a late charge from explosive American Garret Tan and converted his fourth match point to secure a 15-12, 15-13 win.

"I knew if I played well, I would come this far and now, I feel more motivated since I am the only Indian left (in boys' singles) and everything is on me," said the 17-year-old Hyderabadi.

Other results (pre-quarterfinals, Indians only): Mixed doubles: Bhavya Chhabra & Vishakha Toppo bt Thibault Gardon & Agathe Cuevas (Fra) 12-15, 15-11, 15-12.

Boys' doubles: Bhargav Ram Arigela & Viswa Tej Gobburu bt Yi Hsuan Chen & Chun Yen Chu (Tpe) 13-15, 15-9, 15-13.

Girls' doubles: Salsabila Zahra Aulia & Jania Novalita Situmorang (Ina) bt Vennala Kalagotla & Reshika Uthayasooriyan 14-16, 15-12, 15-8.

Cheon Hye In & Moon In Seo (Kor) bt Aanya Bisht & Angel Punera 15-7, 15-8.

In conflict zone

Claims raised about in man-animal conflict in 2024-25: **35,580**

Money granted by way of ex-gratia: **₹21.61 crore**

Elephant attacks: **22,483**

Wild boar attacks: **6,226**

Leopard attacks: **3,738**

Tiger attacks: **554**

Forest encroachment cases in Karnataka

Pending till 2024-25: **44,812**

Cases in Bengaluru division: **4,849**

Fresh cases added in 2024-25: **559**

Source: Forest Department's e-Parihara dashboard

Jumkbo problem: Crop raids by elephants account for the highest number of conflict cases in Karnataka due to habitat fragmentation and anthropogenic pressure on forests. M.A. SRIRAM

Green rhetoric versus the practical reality

The recent deaths of six tigers at M.M. Hills and repeated cases of man-animal conflict expose Karnataka's continued prioritisation of infrastructure projects over environment, despite the loud sustainability rhetoric, argues **R. Krishna Kumar**

Releasing a corporate sustainability report in Bengaluru recently, Karnataka's Minister for Forests, Ecology and Environment Eshwar B. Khandre made a profound observation: ''If there is greenery, there is life; if there are forests, there is a future''

Such lofty statements tend to put a gloss over the negative fallout of policy decisions that are antithetical to conservation. Ironically, the very department Mr. Khandre heads has taken decisions that jeopardises environment and ecology.

Be it the Sharavathi Pumped Storage project in Shivamogga or the micro-hydel projects in the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary in Chamarajanagar district, doing a U-turn on Goa-Tamnar power project, or failure to clear forest encroachments, the State's policy is inconsistent with its avowed intention of forest protection. Activists perceive a pattern in the decision-making that prioritises infrastructure over environment, which endangers ecological integrity.

Infra projects galore

The Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project threatens to inundate large tracts of evergreen forest in one of the few remaining biodiversity-rich landscapes in the Western Ghats.

The Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd (KPCL) is promoting the 2,000 MW pumped-storage hydroelectric facility. The project site is in an ecologically fragile and sensitive area. The scheme requires 42.51 hectares (105.05 acres) of forest land and 60.53 hectares (149.57 acres) of non-forest land from the Sharavathi Valley Lion-Tailed Macaque Wildlife Sanctuary.

This is besides the 11.64 hectares (28.76 acres) of forest land and 28.074 hectares (69.37 acres) of non-forest land proposed to be acquired from the sanctuary's eco-sensitive buffer zone. The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has accorded 'in-principle' approval for the project, for which the Government of Karnataka and the State Board for Wildlife have given their consent.

The Sharavathi Valley is part of the Western Ghats biodiversity hotspot, and shelters numerous endemic and endangered species. This includes an estimated 700 lion-tailed macaques, which are among the world's rarest primates.

Though a few members of NBWL made feeble attempts to oppose the project and questioned its economic feasibility, such objections were brushed aside.

As if to reduce the negative environmental impact, several 'mitigation measures' are being included in the project, and they are merely cosmetic in nature, which fails to minimise ecological damage.

> The conflict incidents are a fallout of approving infrastructure projects in ecologically sensitives areas, coupled with encroachment, which is shrinking forest cover and escalating human- animal conflict in villages abutting forest boundaries

There is a people's movement brewing against the Sharavathi project. Activists under the banner of 'Parisarakkaagi Naavu', or People for Environment, met in Bengaluru on October 11 to express their opposition to the project. They pointed out that not all projects promoted under the banner of 'renewables' are inherently sustainable or ecologically sound.

Opposing both the Sharavathi and Varahi Pumped Storage schemes, the citizens resolved that not only should they be scrapped, but also future renewable energy planning must respect ecological integrity of the site.

Mini-hydel projects

Three mini-hydel projects have been proposed within the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary in Chamarajanagar district. If approved, they are bound to pose a threat to movement of wildlife, apart from disturbing the riverine ecosystem. While the Government of Karnataka is yet to clear them, questions are being raised as to why there is no outright rejection of such proposals.

One is the renewal of diversion of 4.863 ha for the Ranganathaswamy Mini Hydel Project by Pioneer Power Corporation, a new diversion for the Bharachukki 2x2.5 MW Mini Hydel Project by Madhyaranga Energy Private Limited, and the re-diversion of part of the same land for a 24.5 MW project by Balaji Cauv- ery Power Private Limited.

While the extent of land diversion may appear small and insignificant when viewed in isolation, such projects collectively have a cascading negative impact. In the long run. They will undermine the ecological integrity of the surrounding landscape, according to Giridhar Kulkarni, wildlife conservationist.

Six tiger deaths

The imperatives of opposing these proposals also stems from recent tiger deaths – five in June 2025 and another in October – all of which are a direct fallout of retaliatory killings linked to escalating human-wildlife conflict in the MM Hills-Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary landscape. Such conflicts arise from habitat loss, disruption in prey-predator dynamics, and human encroachment, said Kulkarni in a memorandum to the Forest Department.

'Mini hydel projects', despite their name, cause major ecological damage by way of tree-felling, impeding wildlife movement, creating habitat fragmentation, said activists who have urged the government to take a firm stance against such proposals.

Incidentally, the Karnataka Elephant Task Force, which was constituted as per the orders of the High Court of Karnataka in 2012, in its report, noted that that key elephant habitats, including protected areas such as the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary and BRT Tiger Reserve, are covered under various leases and other concessions on forest land.

The task force suggested a time-bound restoration of the land as elephant habitats after making an inventory of such concessions and leases within the designated forests, and initiate necessary process. Activists have argued that extending the existing leases or issuing fresh permission for projects is not the way forward to restore elephant habitats.

Transmission line project

With respect to Goa-Tamnar 400 kV D/C Quad Transmission Line Project, the government has flip-flopped on its own decision. The project proposes to link the existing power grid at Narendra in Dharwad district with Xeldem in Goa with a 94-kilometre transmission line.

About 72 kilometres of the proposed transmission line is to be laid across forests within Karnataka. This includes a 6.6-km stretch through the Anshi-Dandeli Tiger Reserve, one of the most sensitive wildlife habitats in the Western Ghats.

The project requires diversion of 177.091 hectares of forest land spread across Dharwad, Belagavi, and Uttara Kannada districts, and felling of over 62,000 trees as per the government's own admission.

In March 2024, Mr. Khandre had cautioned officials against placing such projects on the table for approval. But more recently, the Forest Department made U-turn on the original decision, and has asked the project proponents to modify the proposal with realignment of the line and other mitigatory measures.

Hubballi-Ankola line

The State government's ambivalence on the Hubballi-Ankola railway line and failure to take a firm decision against it is also fraught with danger, as large tracts of pristine forests in the Western Ghats will be fragmented with cascading negative impact on the environment.

These, and many such projects, would not only intensify fragmentation but also increase conflict while undermining ecological stability of critical forest areas.

According to government statistics, Karnataka has lost 48 human lives due to elephant attacks during 2023-24, while 29 lives were lost in 2022-23. In 2021-22, there were 27 human deaths, and between 2019-20 and 2023-24, 160 people died in elephant attacks. Between 2021 and 2024, 12 people died in tiger attacks.

Forest Department's e-Parihara dashboard indicates that 35,580 conflicts in which claims were raised, were reported during 2024-25 and ₹21.61 crore granted by way of ex-gratia. Of the 35,580 conflict incidents, 22,483 cases pertained to elephant attacks alone, followed by 6,226 cases related to wild boar, 3,738 cases related to leopard attack, and 554 cases pertaining to tiger attack.

These conflict incidents are a fallout of approving infrastructure projects in ecologically sensitives areas, coupled with encroachment, which is shrinking forest cover and escalating human-animal conflict in villages abutting forest boundaries. And it is the local and the marginalised communities that bear the brunt of such policy contradictions, which are inimical to environmental conservation.

Encroachment cases

Adding to the conflict and habitat disturbance is the forest encroachments. There is a backlog of such cases building up across Karnataka. The Forest Department's annual report for 2024-25 indicates that there were 44,812 encroachment cases pending across Karnataka as on March 31, 2025. This includes 559 fresh cases added during 2024-25, raising concern over eroding forest cover and habitat fragmentation.

Bengaluru division alone has 4,849 forest encroachment cases in the areas covered by Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru South, Kolar, Chikkaballapura districts and the Bannerghatta National Park. But the number of encroachments cleared across Karnataka was 243 cases during the year.

Human-tiger conflicts have increased in recent years forcing the authorities to trap the animal in conflict situations and shift them to rescue centres. M.A. SRIRAM

High conflict numbers in Bengaluru Circle

Given the extent of encroachment, the conflict numbers are also high in the Bengaluru Circle. As many as 8,149 crop damage cases were registered during 2024-25, apart from 1,123 cases of cattle kill, while across the State, 4,940 cattle kill cases were registered due to wild animal attack.

The forest cover in Karnataka spans an area of 40,678.23 sq.km, which is 21.21% of its geographical area of 1,91,791 sq. km. As per the annual report of the Forest Department of Karnataka, the percentage of forest area to geographical area was 22.64% in 2018-19.

Forest land diverted for infrastructure purposes over the years is chipping away the existing green cover.

Up to March 31, 2024, as many as 807 projects were cleared entailing transfer of 32,422.55 hectares, or 80,116.5 acres, of forest land for non-forestry purposes. This included 72 irrigation projects, 148 mining and allied projects, 83 road works, 19 railway projects, and 129 transmission line projects, among others.

During 2024-25, an additional 143 projects were cleared and 277.03 hectares, or nearly 684.5 acres of forest land, was diverted for non-forestry purposes. This included three for mining and allied category, and two for transmission lines.

Conservation in the Indian context is also about balancing community needs with forest protection, which calls for local support and engagement.

But with increasing human deaths and crop depredation, the local community support for conservation is vanishing, which bodes ill for wildlife protection.

Even as the government's rhetoric of sustainability and conservation has grown in recent years, so has the ecological imbalance and stress on the ground as evident in the official statistics.

Micro series, major vibes

A breezy Kannada rom-com, *In Between the Lines*, tries to capture the GenZ pulse and promote reading

Sindhu Nagaraj
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Off the pages A still from an episode of *In Between the Lines*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

There is something cosy about rows of shelves lined with books, especially the ones with that delightful old-book smell and leather dust jackets. It reminds you of the simpler joys of life.

Madan Kumar's Flying Dose Films, which aims to serve *gari gari kathegalu* (crisp stories), has captured this whiff of nostalgia in his micro-series on Instagram titled, *In Between the Lines*, through which he says he wants to experiment with light-hearted, relatable content.

Micro-dramas or micro-series are short (no longer than two minutes), vertical video series. "This format is caters to people who enjoy scrolling and watching reels," Madan, who is also the show's creator, adds.

Madan admits it is a challenge to ensure the content does not get lost amid millions of reels on social media. "It is easier to push sloppy content, as opposed to saying something worthwhile in under two minutes."

Abhiraj Dethe, who has directed this series, agrees. "It is tricky, but when the story is good, it holds. Even if someone starts watching from Episode 6 or 9, it should be enticing enough to take them back to Episode 1."

The response to the series on social media has been quite good, Madan says. "The language alternates between English and Kannada. We initially received feedback about the language with some people saying it has too much English. But since it is set in a metropolis, I had to have a bit of English as well."

Promote the art of reading

The irony is not lost on Madan when he says he wanted to promote books through a micro series.

Madan explores reading through the character of Bookworm, a bookstore on Bengaluru's Church Street. People walking into the bookstore, exchanging books and conversations, with old songs in the background, is what makes the series stand out.

Madan, who has also worked as the creative director for a documentary on Bookworm and its proprietor, Krishna Gowda, says he wanted to promote the space. "For me, reading books is not limited to just buying them. Bookstores are a space to engage and build a community; I have tried to show that here."

Abhiraj agrees. "We wanted to bring back that feeling of finding connection between pages instead of profiles."

In Between the Lines follows Dhruva (Aashith) and Tara (Teju Belawadi) after they cross paths in Bookworm. The 25-year-old Dhruva has never read a book in his life, while a slightly older Tara, who is an avid reader, acts as a catalyst between the old and new generations.

After the series aired on Instagram, Krishna says he saw new customers come in, with some asking about the plot.

The 21 episodes of In Between the Lines are available on Flying Dose's Instagram page, and seven more will be released over the next couple of weeks.

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